

A  
PROFITABLE AND  
necessarie Discourse, for the mee-  
*ting with the bad Garbelling of*  
Spices, vsed in these daies.

*And against the Combination of the*  
vvorkemen of that office, contrarie  
*vnto common good.*

Composed by diuers Grocers of Lon-  
*don, wherein are handled such principall*  
matters, as followeth in the Ta-  
*ble, before the booke.*

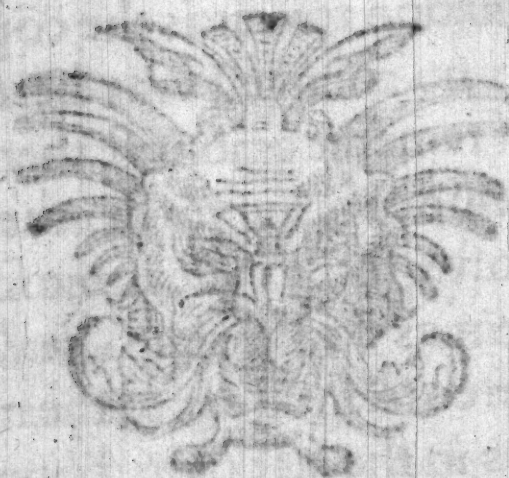


Printed at London, by R. B. for Thomas  
*Man, dwelling in Pater noster Row*  
at the signe of the  
Talbot.

A  
 PROFITABLE AND  
 necessary Discourse for the use  
 of the poor in the  
 spices, used in these dishes.

Containing the Combination of the  
 various kinds of spices, containing  
 more common good.

Composed by Charles Grocers of London  
 who, when in the hands of the  
 printer, is to be seen in the  
 the printer's shop.



Printed at London by R. B. for Thomas  
 Newcomb in Pall-mall  
 at the sign of the  
 Tabac.



To the Right Honourable Sir  
*William Webbe Knight, Lord Mayor of Lon-*  
don, and to the right Worshipfull the  
*Aldermen of the same Cittie*  
his brethren.

**B**Ecause the complaintes of  
fundrye of the retayling  
grocers of Londō, to the  
cheefe officers the gardi-  
ans, and to the first menne  
of that society, against the fact of bad gar-  
belling of spices, betweene them and the  
Marchantes, hath in lieu of reformation  
taught manye indigneties and vvrought  
som indignation tovvards the cōplaināts.  
Therefore no councell vvas better (that  
despaire of remedie amongst them, could  
then conceiue or bring forth) then to flie  
to your moste godly vvisedome for suche  
helps therein, as do beare an *Anologie* and  
proportion correspōdent to the mischiefs  
and diseases in the fact of garbling. Or if  
that doo faile to followv the saieng of the  
Poet *Museus*, the vvhich is thus set forth:

*It is good sometime to sound in open street  
The wicked works which men do thinke to hide.*

*The Epistle*  
meaning that by publishing of some smal  
pamphlet touching the same, suche good  
maye ensue, either the vvorkemanne to  
grow better, or the buier to be more vvi-  
ser, in the office of garbling (a matter right  
Honorable and vvorshipfull, full of rash-  
nesse to breake open a discourse, vvherein-  
to a man may more easilie enter, then find  
the vvaie out againe.) But since that au-  
thoritie and povver (vvhich vvorketh by  
operation) to redresse these defectes, is as  
yet lefte, only in them vvhich are the auc-  
thors of them, vve meane in the Garbeller  
and vvorkemen. Our vvite is such (vvhich  
ought to vvork vvith counsell and discre-  
tion) to allowv and aduance this smal trea-  
tise vnder your Honors fauor and protec-  
tion, the effect vvherof is to shevve the a-  
buses doone in that office, vvith the right  
vse and motion therof: vvherin your vvif-  
domes and Honor may be pleased, to ex-  
cuse our boldnesse vnder this defense, that  
in great inconueniences, great Officers  
haue not despised the meanest voices.  
Then shall our duties to the cōmonvveth  
be out of daunger, and the same aduanta-  
ged



ged by your vvonted affection, to vvhat-  
soeuer concerneth common good, & by  
this our labour. In the vvhich affection  
vve beseech the Creator of all thinges, to  
assit your Lordship and vvorships vvith  
his holy Spirit, and to giue you the same  
for counsel and conduction in the seruice  
of hir Maiestie, this Cittie, and to his glo-  
ry, and your posteritie forever heer-  
after.

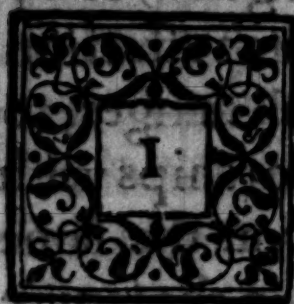
Grocers Hall in

London.

Your most humble the Retailors  
Grocers. London.

To the discret and vertuous

Readers.



**I**N discoursing with diuers wor-  
shipfull Marchants of the com-  
panie of Grocers and others, vpon  
the practises in garbellling  
of spices in London, a thinge to  
to the retaylors of such spices of no small im-  
portance: aswel for that therby they are tou-  
ched in honor and honestie, beeing inforced as  
it were to put to vtterance corrupt spices, as in  
conscience & care to haue reformation for such  
constraints: We speake our minds therein; not  
of things doone this day; yesterdny, or the daie  
before: but of things doone long since by expe-  
rience, and of the obseruation of the said prac-  
tises, and of the corruption therein daily vsed,  
& of the reformatiō now required (the which  
many yeeres more then some scores past was  
conceiued and foreseen.) Therefore to burie the  
hatred growne, both betweene the seller and  
the buier, we proposed a possible means to pro-  
fit the marchant, satisfie al the retaylers, and  
to assure the buier and occupier of the goodnes  
of such spiees without fraud. The meanes are  
grounded vpon the true knowledge of the na-  
ture



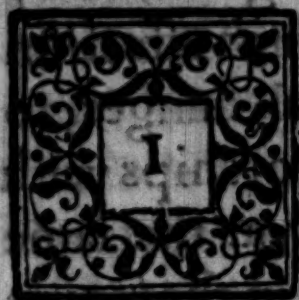
To the Reader.

ture of garbelling of spices, the which is not only the true sifting of the same, but the deuinding of the good from the bad, and the putting of them vp in their said deuisions, and vpon the due vnderstanding of the difference of garbelling vsed in time past, with the time present. And in that difference a iust choise is to bee made, and an ordinance to bee giuen, for the Garbeller to follow, for the benefite of all, the which our intent and meaning is, with the consent of all, and in fauour of thee gentle Reader to publish, to the end, the practises of garbelling may be garbelled (we meane reformed) and hir Maiestie and people of this realme bee better serued in such affaires. For whose satisfaction, we labour with hope, craving of thee the like vtterance of friendship towards vs, and to accept our meaning, if thou finde not this discourse to be quallited to thy liking.

Vale.

To the discret and vertuous

Readers.



N<sup>o</sup> discoursing with diuers wor-  
shipfull Marchants of the com-  
paine of Grocers and others, vpon  
the practises in garbelling  
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To the Reader.

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Vale.

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## Reformation for Garbelling.

- 1 Heerein is shewed that king Henry the sixt did first giue the office of Garbelling of spices in London, to the Maior and Cominaltie of the same.
- 2 That the Marchants and Retailors Grocers, did deuise the lawes howe the same should be garbelled for euer.
- 3 What Garbelling is.

### Chap. I.

**I**F the care which the Antient *Romanes* hadde, to performe the iudgement and decrees of their law-makers be well weighed and obserued : amongst the rest of great respect and honor, the obedience of *Fabius Maximus* to the ordinances of his sonne, is to be admired : who beeing a Maiestrate and in place of iudgement, and seeing his father a farre off comming towards him on horss backe (a thing forbidden amongst the

*Romanes*) he commanded his father to set foote on ground, the which the father obeyed, and embracing his sonne, made greater account of him, then if he had doone otherwise. And on the other side, one *Vestius* was put to death because he arose not when the *Tribune* of the people passed before him, the which he with obedience and patience endured. And diuers Citizens of *Rome* were disfranchised for breathing and yawning a little to lowd, in the presence of the *Censors*: wherat they nothing repined. This we set foorth, for that it should be remembred, that if the common breach of lawes & decrees be permitted, then ensueth not onelie the contempt of the Maiestrate, but also the very ruine of that, for whose cause such ordinances were aduanced: a thinge befallen to the subiect of this matter now in hand; namelie in the fact of Garbelling of spices. The necessitie of clensing and purifieng whereof, in the time of the raigne of king Henry the sixt was then debated, and the office of Garbelling was by the same kinge giuen to the Lord Maior & Cominaltie of this famous Citie of London, but in such wise, notwithstanding, that it is verie apparant, that as well the Marchantes owners of such spices, as the Grocers retaylors of the same Cittie, were called to giue aduice for the conceiuing & creating of such ordinances therein, as might best tend to the benefit of the Marchant, the vtterance and sale of the Grocer, and the goodnes  
of

The office  
of Garbel-  
ling was by  
K. Henrie  
the vi. firste  
giuen to  
the Lorde  
maior and  
comminal-  
ty of lond<sup>o</sup>.



of the thing garbelled for the health of the people of this realme : vpon the which ordinances the Art of garbelling was pronounced to consist, it being an habite of working according to right, reason, and mechanicall or a handicraft, the full knowledge whereof was partlie gotten by vse, at that time by *Richard Hackdie* and *William Aunsell* Citizens, and partly by instructions and reason, taught & shewed by the marchants and Grocers then being, and was left to the execution of the said persons the officers aforlaid, the which aduises, aswel of the said Marchants, Grocers, and of the saide officers, are thus sette foorth.

*Hackdie & Aunsell, first garbellers after the said gift.*

- 1 *The deuisions of Spices by the sayde parties, are particularlie set downe.*
- 2 *The same to be at no time altered.*

*Chap. 2.*



Orsomuch as euery thing hath his natural, proper and inward corruption, of which it is eaten and at the last consumeth and beginneth to spread it self in the best part to mar all, as rottenesse in spices is their proper euill . And for that also, the same spices are also subiecte (as all other thinges are) to accidents, and thereby also may be destroi-

*Euery thing hath his naturall corruption, whereof at the last it is consumed.*

ed before their naturall ouerthrow, as bruses, water, dust, and age in spices. Therefore for the auoiding and curing of such naturall corruption when it hapneth, & thorowly to meet with all such hurtfull accidents to such spices, being aliments and nutrimentes to restore and preferue the health of man, or to preuent some infirmitie and diseases, ready to ouerthrow their good estate: We (say they as skilfull physitions, preuenting diseases and labouring in for-seene mischiefs, according to the causes whereon the effects of such corruption doo depend) haue ordained these deuisions to be obserued in the setting forth those spices, with their qualities by way of garbelling and first of:

*Nutmegges.*

The operation whereof we meane not to set foorth, being no part of our charge: onely for the deuiding of the good from the badde, wee holde it necessarie that they bee deuided into three sorts.

The first & the best we cal case nutmegs, the which are smooth, waightie, faire, & fullof oile.

The second sort we call Bale, the which are also faire and great but somewhat wrinkled, and heere and there oile in them, and declining to corruption.

The third and last sort we terme Rompes, so termed being wrinkled, brused, ill coloured, and do want their oile, and therby are become drie or rotten. The which sorts to be so seueral-  
lie put vp.

*Pepper*



## Pepper.

If the same by some accident shall receiue wet, or otherwise be euill conditioned : wee thinke it meete to be sorted by it selfe and to be kept from the drie. Both which to be garbelled and clenfed from the dust and corrupt pepper, and to be vttered in one sort, in such manner as the same dooth arise from the place it came, and notwithstanding the head sort of pepper from the small.

## Maces and Cynamon.

We holde it best to garbell and clense them into three sorts, to wit : Lardge, middle & petit.

## Ginger, Gaules, Rife and Erreus.

That the same shal passe into two sorts, (viz) Lardge and petit.

Cloues, Graines, Woormseed, Anniseed, Commi-  
seed, Dates, Senie, and all other things  
garbellable.

We likewise think it best to garble and clense them into one good sort from the dust and garbels, according to the nature of the thing it self.

- 1 The prooffe that those deuisions were by the  
so appointed to be made and kept.
- 2 That the L. Maior and comminalty by two  
seuerall acts of Common counsell haue al-  
lowed the same.
- 3 That the Garbeller therby is excluded to  
make lawes by himself therein, or to alter  
the same.

4 That

- 4 That the common people haue receiued the same as a custome, and doo in euery faire and market, procure troubles for putting spices to sale, garbelled to the contrarie.

## Chap. 3.



Or the approouing of which Deuisions, besides the antient remembrance therof, leste with Maister *Blaze Saunders* late garbellor, the same may plainelie appeere in this. That in *Flaunders*, Marchantes before then, and long since, brought from *Antwerp*, *Brudges* and *Roane*, their Nutmegs and other spices in such condition and sorts as is beforesaid, with a seale of the figure of the right hand vppon euery vessell or bagge of case nutmegs and other spices in such condition and fortes as is aforesaid. And on their baile Nutmegs, a hand with a barre ouerthwart, and the other sort without marke. And in such sorts the same were bought and sold, as by an acte of Common councell, holden by your predecessors it may appeare in Anno. 4. of K. Henry the viii. To the which deuisions, the Marchant, Retailor, and Garbeller (say they) shall hold themselues contented without alteration; vnlesse there shall bee cause of correction of those sorts, vppon search of them by the Garbellor in London: as also by another act of Com-



Common counsell made in An. 18. of K. Henry the eight, it is set foorth : the which may appeare at the end of this present discourse. The filth and dust of which said spices, were helde vnwholsome and not vendible but to be reiect-  
 ed as vnseruiceable : your predecessors then were mooued with those reasons, to allowe and confirme those deuisions as reasonable and full of equitie betweene the marchant and the retailors, and were desirous that the same shuld also remaine and abide, for the auoiding of de-  
 ceipt or losse of the common people, who haue in such measure noted and felt the benefite of the said deuisions, that now in open faires and places corporate, they doo daielie procure the spices sorted to the contrarie, to be seysed on as goodes forfeited, and not garbelled as they ought to bee ; to the great trouble of the retay-  
 lers, and notable detriment. Vppon these and such like beginnings, and by the acts of Com-  
 mon counsell ensuing, the faete of garbelling hath had continuance, vntill now of late that couetousnesse or ignorance in the principall of-  
 ficer, hath bred the change and ouerthrow of the pollitike deuise of this Art. These our pre-  
 decessors also thought the faet of garbelling (as is before appointed) to be a bond of great vni-  
 tie, for the retailors with the marchants, and of no lesse seruice for the Common-wealth : and in that sence, they all (by the humble petition  
 of the garbeller) agreed, that it should be ena-  
 ced

Couetous-  
 nesse dooth  
 worke con-  
 fusion of all  
 right.

The faet of  
 garbelling  
 a bond of  
 vnitie be-  
 twene the  
 marchant  
 and the gro-  
 cers.

There is  
but one way  
to goodnes.

The Mar-  
chant fee-  
leth the  
harm by the  
garbellers  
presence in  
his house.

sted by a common councell therefore especial-  
lie made, that he might visite the garbelling of  
*Antwerpe* and *Brudges*, onely to refine if neede  
were, but not to alter their said deuisions : and  
that the Marchants and retailors should not af-  
terwards alter their sortes of garbelled spices,  
but put the same to sale, in such wise as the same  
spices were garbelled (in such manner as is by  
the premises iustlie to be inferred) and not be-  
fore they were so garbelled or refined, vppon a  
penaltie therein expresse; and to be accounted  
as an enimic to that forme, appointed therein  
for common good, as we before haue remem-  
bred, for the obseruation of which indifferen-  
cie, the said officer taketh his corporall oth. And  
forsomuch as the fact of garbelling cannot bee  
good, but after one sort, but to the euill it may  
be many waies done: as to hit a white, there  
is but one waie, but to misse it there are many  
waies. We say as commonlie it is said, that that  
thing is rightly don, which is done to the order  
and institution of good pollicie. And for such  
we esteeme those deuisions to be, and that they  
are the only way of cleane garbelling, for the  
common wealth, whereon that art dependeth,  
and for whose sake the Marchant is contented  
to make the Garbeller the maister of his mar-  
chandize for the time, (the inconueniences  
whereof he best feeleth, but least knoweth) and  
the retaylor is appointed his instrument to put  
the same to sale, according to the deuisions so  
made



made bought and sold, whereby it is made very apparant to your wisedomes, that the foueraigntie of that and euery other good order, is the sure foundation thereof, with the vnion and bond of all the particulers, for whose cause the same was conceiued, made and aduanced, and heerein as in all other cases, if euery man should haue no other respect but to his owne, their vnity would soone be dissolued.

*Chap. 4.*

1. *The greefes of the Retailors grocers.*
2. *What it is they doo require of the Lorde Maior and Aldermen.*



Vt to resume & to continue the speech by vs alreadie begun, of the abuse of this art. We saye, that iniury is offered to those goods of Marchants, and by the sale of those goodes, to the honor and person of the seller: the which iniurie is not doone by force, for force may bee repelled by force, but by fraude, and by this fraud an iniustice passeth to all, the which is to be removed by reformation. And heerein wee are not called to do, but to demand iustice, the which wee require, euen no further, then that those lawes of your predecessors, made as touching the fact of Garbelling may be kept and obeyed

C

by

The garbeller is not to make lawes at his pleasure, nor to place nor displace any without consent of the l. maior

Nothing is profitable that is not honest

by those workmen, who are parties therevnto : the which belongeth to your offices to see performed. And vnder this obedience, is conteined that moderation which the officer in this Art of garbelling, ought to obserue; namelye, that hee must not of his owne motion directe such maner of Garbelling as himselfe pleaseth, nor abuse the manner of garbelling firste vsed; nor by the same abuse, take vpon him any parte of the maiestrates office, in iudging and making forfeit what hee liketh. It is for the Commonwealths sake (whome he may thanke) that hee commeth into the Marchantes dores : & therefore it is meet for him to speake, say, and do all thinges for the preservation thereof by his facultie, as it was first appointed by your predecessors, who were as you are, armed with power, to enforce his obedience to these their ordinances, or to punish the contrarie, or to remoue him. But forsomuche as couetousnesse, wherewith a man beeing surprised, shall want knowledge howe to command himselfe, maye entice him to fall from all antient orders, and to practise strange deuisions, aswell of spices, as of profit and honestie, the which are neuer separated in matters of good qualitie; for nothinge is iust nor profitable if not honest : and he that maketh a deuision of them, by setting foorth and separating his actions in this wise, saieng; this deed is honest, but that deed is profitable for me, he cannot be without fraud : but  
will



will rend a sunder all equitie ordained by public power. Therefore wee haue set foorth the abuses nowe offered, and wherein the antient deuisions are not obserued, and howe these deuisions nowe vsed, bringeth detriment to the Marchant and losse to the retaylors, as we haue taken in hand, being the second point by vs set downe in the premises of this discourse, and to shewe wherein the antient order is obserued though corruptlie, and whye the garbeller of late sued to haue his manner of garbling, with further authoririe to be allowed to him, by acte of Common counsell.

## Chap. 5.

- 1 The particular abuses of the Garbeller in this office, aswell in the clensing and deuiding of spices, as in the putting vp of the same.
- 2 By those abuses, he will conuert great benefit either to the Marchant or to the retaylor at his pleasure. the which could not happen, if the antient orders were kept.



And first in Nutmegs, for expedition and hast (the first point of his gaine) though it make wast to all others. He woulde and oftentimes dooth drawe them into one sort, casting out

Hast makes wast.

Nutmegs  
falselic pack-  
ked vp.

Some of the Rompes, and by that one sorte he may vppon occasion of bribes, displeasure or ignorance, conuert the same somtimes to the benefit of the Marchante, and otherwhiles to the grocer retaylor, as is heereafter declared: but to whomsoever it is, the common people haue the harme thereby, and the retaylor is very often discredited: and by these meanes, contentions are, maye bee, and haue beene moued, betweene the marchant, seller, and buier. For by this workmanship this fraud is maintained: that on the top of his vessell or bag, there are bestowed nutmegs of faire condition, and in the bottome or a foot downwards, there are found Nutmegs not so good, by vi. viii. and xii. pence in the pound: And to the contrarye when he list, the worst are laid vppermost, and in such sorte, that the retaylor must make sale thereof vppon forfeiture of the same; a thinge which could not happen by the ancient deuisions, for thereby the best are set forth by it self, by the name of case, being such as is aforesaide, full of oile, faire and of good perfection, and more permanent and lasting then others, and is knowne by his marke. The next sort beeing called baile, is not halfe so oylie as the case, but declining and apt to corruption, and are not to be put vp among the best, for that it wil disgrace them speedilie, and in short time change into a Rompe: the which matter common and daile experience proueth, the which by a man skilful,  
and



and a cunning Garbeller may easilie be drawne  
 frō the best, but not by the vnskilful; so that the  
 remainder being rompes are left to themselves.  
 The which we wish, for that the same is a spice  
 of choise and prise, that the garbelling and put-  
 ting vp thereof, were committed to menne of  
 better iudgement and skill, as by the garbellers  
 owne petition it is required, and not to those  
 whoe nowe are artificers therein, for that they  
 know not how, or malitiouſlie will not deuide  
 the same as they ought to be, being a matter of  
 great importance and of regard. Heereby and  
 by the sequell, you may see the abuses, and easi-  
 lie discern the differences of his garbelling to  
 one sort (the which is no garbelling, but a prac-  
 tise tending to abuses as is heereafter prooued)  
 & the ancient deuisions, & heerewithall you may  
 note the danger (if we may call it a danger) that  
 by this practise of the deuiding of Nutmegs in-  
 to one sort, the marchant and the retaylor pre-  
 sent and to come heereafter, may and do incur  
 by the said Act of common councell, made An.  
 18. of king Henry the viii, the said deuision be-  
 ing contrarie to the ancient custome: for where  
 it is said, that no marchant nor other, doo sel in  
 grosse or retaile within the Cittie of London,  
 any manner of spices before it be garbelled, tri-  
 ed, and made cleane by the officer, as of olde  
 time accustomed: whereby it may or shall eui-  
 dentlie appeare to the buiers therof, to be good  
 perfect, cleane and wholsome, vppon paine of

The mar-  
 chant doth  
 forfeit his  
 wares by  
 the manner  
 of garbel-  
 ling nowe  
 vsed.

The practice of the garbeller is to intrap the Merchant,

forfeiture of the same spices so sold. The which matter is not nor can be performed in this one sort of deuiding; but to make it a danger (as we take it) the garbeller hath humbly besought your honour and worships of late, to giue him power by order and acte of common councell, to seize vppon all such wares and spices, as are made forfeitable by the same act, and other acts since made, the which authoritie (hee saith) is wanting in the same Acts. This being considered, we cannot sufficientlie maruaile, what hath moued him to enter into so preposterous a course; for from this abuse in nutmegs, he hath fallen further to abuse the antient sort and manner of garbelling of

### Pepper.

The wet and drie pepper are to vs the retaylors sold and mingled together, and in that sort by him garbelled, nay rather vngarbelled; but the same in that wise, we are inioyned to put to sale, whereby we are hindered and the people deceiued, and the Marchants still in danger of the statutes before mentioned, and the head or greatest pepper of both wet and dry are taken apart, & mingled with other sorts, from whence it was not taken, and in brieft he maketh deuisions therein as himselfe liste, and contrarie to the ancient order, the which was, as is aforesaid, but in one sorte the drie pepper by it selfe without subtracting the greatest from the same, and the



the wet pepper by it selfe, the difference beeing noted by the seale thereon, the which was well knowne to our predeceffors. But heereby the common people are much abused, being constrained to buy the small from the great, and the wet with the drie: the one tainted and corrupted with salt water, and vnwholsome and altered in colour, and the best thereby made worse.

*Maces and Cynamon.*

He obserueth the antient order of deuiding them into three sorts, but in such wise, that by the packing and putting vp of the same, no such indifferency is vsed, but that by his oath he may be called in question therein.

*Ginger, Gaules, Rise and Errens.*

He likewise obserueth the antient manner of passing them into two sorts.

*Cloues, Graines, Woormseed, Anniseed, Comminseed, Dates, Senie, and all other things garbellable.*

He sorteth them into one sort, from the dust and garbels but corruptlie: the rather for that in all he reserueth this power to himselfe, to disgvize the Marchant or the retaylor, for by separating the great from the small, hee may laie the one or the other so vpwards or downwards that if his fauor be not bought, nor craued, hee may conuert the benefite which waye himselfe

Profitable  
aduersaries  
to the Gar-  
beller.

listeth, either to the marchant or to the retaylor. And forsomuche as the substance of our greefe consisteth in the vnderstanding of these abuses and imperfections, therefore wee may with more safetie, and without the imputation of curiositie enter therinto; otherwise we might be thought curious, in seeking after other mens faults (a matter from which wise men will diuert and quench the same) for as sometime, it is good to cease to inquire after lawfull things, as an exercise and practise of iustice: so it is likewise expedient, sometime to leaue vntaken that which a man may lawfullie take, whereby to restraine the desire of vnlawfull taking. But by this our curiositie, we wish to bee more profitable to the aduersarye of our good then to our selues, by shewing him of what he is to beware, and what to correct. And first to prooue these abuses to be such in this workeman, whom wee haue regarded as the principal body (the which being infected, the members his ministers cannot doo their dutie.) We say, that albeit he promiseth, that he will well and lawfullye behaue himselfe in the office of Garbelling, without any partialitie, taking reasonable; and that after he hath packed vp the goods by him garbelled, he will set thereon a marke, that the common wayer may take knowledge therof: yet in these matters, and in many other things appertaining to that office, he departeth from his saide promise in behauing himselfe, as in this Chapter following it appeareth. *Whereas*



## Chap. 6.

- 1 Whereas the principall Garbeller vseth diuers practises, tending to the slander of the office, therefore heerein are set foorth some of the same practises
- 2 The praefes thereof are set foorth by a petition of the workemen of the saide office, which remaineth with the bodye of this societie.



Orsomuch as the Garbeller affirmeth, that this maner of garbelling is a lawfull manner of garbelling: therein we (as our predecessors did) do not repute it lawfull garbelling, to put wet and dry pepper together: a thing by him vsed.

Item, To giue licence to any man to buy spices garbellable, and to licence one and not another, to carrie the same hither and thither vngarbelled, vnder his passing seale, is not lawfull; a matter very notorious and enterteineth suspicion of much euill.

Item, to arrest some marchantes, and not other some for keeping their goods vngarbelled, longer then the Act of Common counsell appointeth, is (so farre as hee can allowe) partialitie.

D

Item,

Item, To take money of marchants before their goods be garbelled, and to take more money of one then of another for garbelling of like commoditie, is partialitie : likewise to take more money, then by the act of common coucell is limited, is vnlawfull.

Item, To garbell Nutmegs into case & baile according to the ancient custome in one place, and not in another, is partialitie.

Item, By skill and pollicie, to hinder the sale of marchants in their goods, requireth disfranchisement, the which may arise, by puttinge Nutmegs into one sort together in one place, and to hinder the sale of the like in another place, he wil deuide them into two sorts, wherein the retaylor, so long as hee may finde them so deuided, will neuer looke to him with one sort : and heereby oftentimes, the Marchant is constrained to regarbell them . But to wade further into these or other particularities of his proceedings were too tedious ; & are not heerin for diuers good causes to be discovered : by these it is euident, that the Art of garbelling is not lawfully vsed, but by him vnlawfully abused, and the skilfull ruling or gouerning of a companie is to begin in himselfe : but the head being such, let vs behold the proceedings of his ministers.

*Chap.*



## Chap. 7.

- 1 *Diuers notable abuses doone by the workmen vnder the said garbeller.*
- 2 *They can deceiue both Marchant and grocer, and their leader also.*
- 3 *The Marchantes may saue 2000 poundes yeerelie, if the ancient manner of garbelling were obserued.*



Of long since, a marchant had a commodity wherein the workmen garbellers laboured, by the space of xiiii. daies: the which commoditie, for that it was bought or at the least agreed for, before the garbelling thereof, by certaine retailors, the Marchant promised his reward to these ministers, the retaylor also promised their reward, to haue the same well and duellie garbelled: but secretlie and vnder-hand, one of the said ministers required of one of the retaylor xx. shillings, promising therefore to leaue good garbell, if he bought the same garbell: the retaylor made his countenance to gratifie this friendship, but he would not parte with any of the mony required, vntill he saw this promise to succeed; in this hope these garbellers labored to

The decei-  
uer is de-  
ceiued.

make good garbell vntil the end, and the retaylor made hast to buy this garbel at a good price, hoping to haue had store of good stuffe in the same; and also to reteine his promised reward: the which by delaies these garbellers suspected. And therevpon one of them maketh sute to the marchant that he might buy the said garbell, he had his answer, that he came not in time, it was sold to the retaylor: to this the said workeman and his consortes gaue countenance of their good liking, but withall to couer their abuse, and to reuenge the breach of the retaylors promise, one of them closeth with the Marchant, and saith: Sir you promised vs a reward to take paines in this commoditie, for the true garbelling thereof, the which is perfourmed on our parte, but if you will giue vs xx. s. the garbell shall be againe cast ouer, and thereby we doubt not, but to profit you very much. Whye saith the Marchant, my masters you know my mind, they that pleasure me, to them I will not be vngratefull.

Heerevpon to it they go, and by regarbling of the garbell, the marchant saued v. pound, or more in money; their rewarde was giuen, and the garbell is packed vp, the which the retaylor with some gladnes and cost receiued, knowing nothing of the regarbling thereof, and in lieu of his reward, giueth fewe and cheape wordes of thanks to the Garbellors; whoe commending the same in derision, leaueth the same to  
his



his further and gentle consideration. By this (beeing one of the least of their bad practises) your Lordshippe and worships may see the vndue regard, the saide Garbeller and workemen doo beare in these affaires to their duties, the rather for that there is as yet, no good lawe appointed to hold them therevnto: by these also we enforme our selues (and so some of vs haue heard it deliuered, by the mouthe of some of those ministers) that the marchants in this citty (if reformation were heerein had by an expert garbeller) might saue 2000 poundes yearelie, whereof in this wise they are deceitfully defrauded, besides the harmes the retaylor and the common people do sustaine by their bad practises, a great impietie in the suffrance therof, the rather for that vnder the colour of garbling, for the health and wealth of the people, the proper owner of such goodes, dooth receiue abuse within his owne doores. Truelie the question why euery such proprietary of such goods, may not clense the same, as well as to haue an officer therof, hath waightie reasons on both sides, but it is out of our purpose to dispute thereof.

This losse  
may be com-  
pared to the  
Ecco which  
cannot bee  
found but  
yet is sensi-  
bly heard &  
knowne.

And for further prooffe of the second point of our determination; the which is, that the deuisions nowe vsed, are contrarie to the causes, for the which the saide Act was conceiued. We say as is beforesaid, That by the impunitie of these offences; and from thence many shiftes and sleighes are raunged and deriued, the

which by the weakenesse and ignorance of the principall garbeller, is fostred in the members his workemen, cheeflie by the small account which is made of the accomplishment of the ancient manner of garbelling, the which being misregarded, these mēbers (good fellows, right Honourable, that wil make you to belecue that flies doo carry pyke-staues, in those countries from whence these spices doo come) are comforted, contrarie to the fourme and fashion of this Art, in the retch of the said principall officer, and before his face, strangelic and notablie to defraud him of his dutie, and corrupt theyr whole affaires, to the preiudice of the retaylors, but chieflie of the Marchants; & amongst many others, this one we thinke meete to haue it remembered for his auaile.

A Marchant hath a commoditie of Cloues, Maces, Wormeseed, or such like to bee garbelled, the quantitie is waied, or otherwise known to this head garbeller, and founde to bee some 600. pound waight, it being clenfed, the good of some one of these commodities, ariseth to 300. or 400. pound waight, from which quantitie, these members beeing confederates with the Marchants man (who maketh it no sinne to deceiue the deceiuer) withdraweth the thirde or halfe, hauing ready the like waight of olde garbell. Now this head garbeller, for the leuyeng of his dutie, reuifiteth the waight afor said; then to disguise him, they will thrust the olde  
and



and new garbell together to hold waight, and thereby measure and leuie his dutie, according to the good remaining: and the rest of his dutie is good prize to them, in which ouer-reach, the sealer likewise in his office is as handsomely disguised: the manner howe is vnfit heere to be set downe.

*Chap. 8.*

- 1 *The notable and intollerable deuices of these workemen, to beguile the Marchant.*
- 2 *The meanes how to reforme them.*



Hese inconueniences as is most apparant, may well bee preuented, by following the antient manner of Garbelling, associating the same with the petitions ensuing, all tending to one vni forme order in garbelling, to the benefit of all: for by dissorting of the said spices from the antient deuisions; the said workmen in this office, to the great preiudice of all parties, take libertie to packe the commoditie vppe verie corruptlie, and will giue such secret marks, either by a knot made on the third, in the bagge made vp, or by a spot of Inke, that being confederate with another of their friends, who shall come to buy the same of the marchant, may thereby know how much or how deepe, the best sort doo lie vnder

A bad practise of the workemen against the marchant.

the second, or worst sort, the which is laied vpon purpose vpon the top of the bagge, & heere by a man of their intelligence, shall take vp the best commoditie, and leaue the worst to the retaylor; yea and pay lesse for the same, then for the remainder: the marchant beleeuing that he holdeth the best sorts stil, by reason that the best of his commodities is laid vppermost. Wherein we informe our selues, that the marchant loseth v. pound in the hundreth waight, by their differences in garbelling and putting vp of the same. The losse runneth not to the benefite of the retailors, but by the bad handling thereof, his losse likewise ensueth. Besides we take that regarbling is intollerable, and falleth out as euil to the retailer, as filching of the best falleth out to the Marchant, albeit the waight bee made vp by a little old garbel, bought of purpose (a matter if it be often vsed, for the marchant to looke vnto) all which considered, with manye more wherein euery one of vs haue a sufficient feeling thereof in himselfe by his owne harme. We say that the principall officer, may thinke that these abuses are contrarie to the meaning of the firste erection of garbelling, and that the good of the Common-wealth heerein, is the lawe of this Art; and that hee nor his, can commit a fault, nor yet rest from their duties without the hurt of those, whose health and benefite is cheefelie considered in this art, the which is but a deuision of the good from the bad spices, and not to him.

Note.



hinder the marchantes sale or his distribution thereof, or the retaylors detriment by sleighes and practises of their owne inuentions, and further if he hadde reason of the alteration of anye of these ancient ordinances; if these were euill established, and coulde obteine suche as are agreeing with themselves: yet in reason hee is to bring, aswell the Marchant as the retaylor, in hart and mind to helpe the estate therof, and he is not of his owne motion, to intermeddle in the reformation thereof, it being not his priuate affaires: and they all are to shewe it to the superiour, whom we know and take you to be, whose hands are vnbound, to dispose and to order these affaires, becing more publike then priuate.

But to growe brieve in this matter alledged, and to set foorth some resolutions in such questions as may arise heerin. And first, where it is by some marchants; Ignorant in the qualitic of garbell and spices (the which sometime falleth into their handes that expect not for them) alledged, that if the antient deuisions shoulde be vsed, that then they shoulde sell the best, and be constrained to keepe the other sortes: as in Nutmegges if they bee deuided into case and baile; the case may be solde and the Bayle shall remaine; And therefore they like the same to bee doone into one sorte. Heerevnto we saye, and will amende his account in this manner: That if the said marchante haue three bagges

Question.

E

of

Answer.

The mar-  
chant doth  
not knowe  
many times  
what hee  
dooth sell.

Note.

of Nutmegs of some 600. waight, first suppose that all the rompes bee taken out, and that the rest doo way 400. waight, being made into one sort, worth to be sold at v. shillings the pound, it ariseth to the somme of 100. pounce, the which if afterwarde they bee deuided into case and baile, the case dooth arise to 250 pound waight, being worth six shillings the pounce, amounteth to 75. pound, and 150. waight of baile remaining, being worth iiii. shillings the pound, ariseth to 30. pound, the whole summe being 105. pound. So that it appeareth, that the Marchants gaine is greater by these deuisions, then by one sort. And it cannot be denied, but the retaylor shall know better heereby what he buieth then otherwise: and the Marchant what he selleth, being disguised as is aforesaide, and as is heereafter set foorth. And thus much the officer herin could tel the Marchant; with this, that he findeth vpon the sight of the nutmegs, now sent from beyond the seas, that their factors in those parts care not, if the best sorte of Nutmegs be picked out from the second sorte, the which they account will serue well enough in London, to draw into one sort; but he commendeth and coloureth these euils with a commendable title of expedition, in that one sort is quicklie doone: wherein his gaine is singular, as thus.

He appointeth three men, being hired at xii. pence the daie a peece, to garbell the saide 600. waight



waight of nurmegs into one sort, hee taketh as his due xvi. shillings. These three men can draw those into that sort in half a day, and do receiue xviii. pence for their labour, so his gaine is cleer xiiii. shillings vi. pence, the which if they were dulle garbelled would aske three daies worke, the labour whereof ariseth to nine. s. wherein it plainelie appeareth, that by passing this 600. waight into one sort, he gaineth xiiii. shillings six pence, in halfe a day, and by keeping the ancient deuisions, he gaineth but six shil. in three daies, the which is the cause of his expedition: without care either to the welfare of the Merchant, retaylor, or to the people into whose hands the same doo passe. But wee referre it to your Honourable consideration, to iudge what gaine this expedition bringeth in six daies, where he hath xiiii. shillings six pence, in a forenoon. The which being by his workemen well noted for recreation sake, and to try the iudgement of the saide principall garbeller for a *Dilemma* in this expedition, they will sometime get a heape of small stones and laye them by their worke, and themselues will play the good fellowes and let all alone: wherewith if any discontentment doo grow by the master garbeller for expedition, then they doo shewe these stones, and aske him if that be no labour to picke them out, and thereby these poore men sometime doo gaine a daies labor or two. Wherin for that these workemen haue of themselues found out and requi-

The good  
of the com-  
monwealth  
is the lawe  
of true gar-  
belling.

red certaine orders to bee kepte among themselves, and accordinglie haue made their request to the said officer, the which is correspondent to the matter by vs required, therefore we haue caused the same their orders to be heerein set forth, to the end, that the said cheefe garbeller may be enioyned to allowe thereof, as a meane and for a principall correction of their former abuses and conuersation, by the repetition whereof, these persons our friends will bee angred (as is very like.)

Anger better to be tolerated than vice.

But it is not materiall, so that they bee bettered, and for that purpose, we are their friendes, and anger is better to be tollerated then vice, or such inconueniences as are aforesaide. But forsomuche as reprehension will breede but small reformation heerein : we for that we know that your entent is to embrace the cause that runneth to the auaille of the common-wealth, and to suppress the contrarye, do sue to your lordshippe, that by waie of your decree, confirmed by Act of Common councell, it maye bee perpetuallie and irreuokeable ordeined, that the auntient and firste ordinances aforesayde, may be obserued and kept, and all other exercise of Garbelling to bee abolished. And that inso-much as the saide workemen therein, are fallen from their true labour, and by negligence of their gouernour, doo falsifie their workes, to the hurt of manye, partly for want of a reasonable fallerie, the which may bee redressed, if the orders



orders by themselves contriued and heerein sette foorth may be granted, beeing such in our opinions, as doo tende to publike profite, as well as to the priuate gaine of the saide office. That the same their ordinances may likewise be ratified with this .

That none doo worke, inthe sayde office, but able menne and suche as haue skill, as the Garbeller himselfe, by his petition requireth, and to bee by your Honourable assent first allowed. He requireth to vse men of skill, but he will vnskilfully vse them.

And further, for that the enuie of their dooinges hath exposed and made the Retaylor, subiect to manye mislikinges with the people, whoe doo buie the saide spices (for an ease in this euill) it maye also please you, to giue your assent for the publication and confirmation of these ordinances also ensuyng; whereby neyther the Marchantes, Retailors, nor Grocers, beeing Chapmen abroad, nor common people may reenter into any feare, to be abused by the enterprises of these needie workemen, beeing no Winterlinges nor colde hanlers, of and in the Arte of garbelling; wherein as wee haue noted the mischief, so wee haue founde out the remedie, by this necessarie pathe, beeing accompanied with the auntient order, the which hetherto hath beene broken vppe and disturbed, by the mysse-regarde of the firste and chiefe Garbeller, whose practise hath byn and is (more & more) vnder sundrie pretenses

The remedies in these euils.

to abase the credite and authoritie of those antient deuisions of spices, and to gaine partakers to ouerthrowe all that stande in his waye, by him taken to ouerreache the absolute power of handeling the saide office in London, to him giuen by your Honors predecessors, as he doth by his garbelling in other places, by force of hir maiesties letters pattents to his own purposes: and hath indeuoured to possesse them diuerslie and their fauours, to the end aforesaid, and hath presumed to make lawes in some cases, and in other cases he craueth the same to be established by an act of common councell. And that also it may bee ordeined that his ministers and workmen vnder him, may take their oathe to obserue the same to their vttermoste, the which for that they be not contrarie nor preiudiciall to the order of the antient maner of garbelling, but onely doo tend to this end, that we may haue and receiue our spices duly deuided and so packed vp, or else that we may compasse our remedie, if those antient deuisions shoulde be falsified or corrupted.

We therefore haue particularly set foorth the true vniformitie in garbelling of euery spice in his kind, for the more better and plaine directing of the said workemen, and all other therein. And that in case in the execution of these ordinances and labour, the saide principall officer shall not receiue a sufficient fee, vppon euery thing garbelled, that then his duty may bee in-  
crea-



creased, according to such iudgement as himselfe heeretofore hath required; especially, if the amendment of his rate in the things required as to little, may not be defaulked out of thinges, that he dooth garbell, for which hee hath too much, as is heereafter declared.

*Chap. 9.*

- 1 *The true manner of Garbelling of euery particular spice, and of their deuisions.*
- 2 *That by the marks heerein sette foorth, euery sort may be knowne with the partie who put them vppe, and the time.*
- 3 *The which manner of Garbelling the Grocers doo sue, to haue confirmed, and expresse set foorth, by act of common councell.*



**D**epper of all Spices ought to be garbelled in the selfe-same nature it first came in, whether case, callico, halfe barre wet or drie, the Garbeller ought not to alter the quallitie thereof, for feare of deceit; and to garbell it well, it ought to be thus handled by a workeman of skill. First the dust muste bee sifted through a siue, that ought to haue such holes, that not onelie the dust but also the granell must go through: that being doone, it ought also to passe through another syue, of such holes that they may bee all

equall, to the end that the stalks of the said pepper, may be seperated from the good pepper: that beeing doone, there remaineth then nothing, but that the garbeller doo fanne out all the light pepper, from the saide good pepper. And forsomuch as it is impossible for the garbeller (if he respect expedition) so to fanne, but that he shall throw out much small, hard, wrinkled pepper that is good, Therefore hee ought to regarble the saide light pepper againe. And that which he findeth to bee sound, although it be small, yet he ought to put the same into the good pepper, and so to mingle it, that hee deceiue neither the marchant, nor Grocer, for in such a case as this is, many times it resteth in the disposition of the Garbeller, to please or displease as is before recited. If he should mingle vpon the toppe, or within a little from the top it woulde hinder the sale of the pepper, peraduenture two pence in a pound: againe if it bee mingled in the midst, or in the bottome, so farre from the sight of the Grocer, that hee is not able to discerne the same, then is hee hindered many times two pence in a pound. And therefore to preuent this fault and such like in manie other spices, which may be so garbled and mingled together, that the one or the other shall be mightilie deceiued. We therefore haue thought it good, to deuise a marke for the workeman, that dooth garbell and put vp marchantes spices: that when he hath made vppe his worke, the



the same marke with his name, may be set vpon the top of the bag, or other vessell, shewing thereby the deuision and sorte therein contained, and the goodnes therof (notwithstanding the seale of the garbeller to be vsed at his pleasure) the which marke may passe with *Bonus, melior, optimus*, according to the thing garbelled, as thus for an example.



A fit reme-  
dy, heereby  
if the retay-  
lor or mar-  
chant be at  
any time  
deceiued.

The which marks may be printed in paper, and  
euery of the said workemen to carrie his owne  
marke.

### Cloues.

The small  
cloue as  
good as the  
great.

Are a sweete spice, and profitable to garbell,  
and in them there is no great cunning to bee  
shewed by the workemen, but to garbell them  
cleane, by picking them vpon a Table, and after  
that the dust is sifted out, the small cloue is as  
good as the biggest, and therefore there canne  
come no great hurt to the Marchant or grocer,  
if the smallest be put either in the toppe, bottom  
or middest: only this there resteth vpon the skil  
of the sworne garbeller, to certifie by his marke  
whether they be wet or drie, that is so put vp.

### Maces.

These sieues  
and such  
like are to  
be provided  
by a man of  
iudgement  
& skill, that  
hath beene  
trained vp  
in garbling

Are a spice that ought to bee deuided by the  
Garbeller, into three seuerall deuisions, viz :  
large, myddle, and petit, and to performe this  
matter, he ought to haue a sieue of a reasonable  
scantling to fiste the myddle from the large, and  
likewise a sieue fit for the purpose to take the  
dust from the petit. This beeing doone, the  
shelles, nuttes, feminine Maces, and such like  
stufte beeing taken out, their resteth a kinde of  
honestie in the sworne garbeller, that putteth  
them vppe into the Barrell, bagge, or hogeshed,



to see whether the large maces be all of one like goodnesse, if the one halfe or part of them bee brighter then the other, by twelue pence or two shillings in the pound, and if two sortes of maces be mingled together in the marchants house before the garbeller doo come vnto the owner thereof, or otherwise by himselfe at the request of the marchant: then in such cases as this is, he ought to put on his marke according to the goodnesse thereof. This course beeing once taken, it will little preuaile the marchant to deceiue the Grocer, by putting on bright Maces vpon the toppe of his vessell; againe, by a true marke the marchant shall be releued although they do appeare worst in sight, vppon the view of the grocer.

### *Synamon.*

Also is a spice to bee deuided into three seuerall sortes, viz: Large, myddle, and petit, in this kind of Spice there is no great skill to be vfed, only this: that the Garbeller that shall garbell it, ought to see that amongst the large Synamon, there be no midle Synamon, viz: Synamon vnpipecd, neither yet any great gouty sticks or otherwise blacke, which if he finde anye, hee ought to breake them in peeces, and to put euerie sticke in his right place, the middle synamon which shall come from the large, ought to bee so handled, that the garbeller deale not parti-

Synamon  
blacke, ha-  
uing taken  
salt water  
loseth his  
substance, &  
otherwise it  
may bee  
good.

allie betweene the marchante and the grocer ; their ought nothing to be taken from that sorte, but so much petit as will passe through a ginger sieue, that being doon, the dust with the strawes are to be taken from it, by fanning by a workeman of skill. And forsomuch as there are diuers sorts of Synamon of sundry goodnes, therefore the skilfull Garbeller, ought to haue this speciall regard, that is, that he after the garbelling of any such sort, doo set on a iuste and true marke, aswell profitable to the marchant as to the Grocer.

*Nutmegges.*

Are a spice that are to bee deuided into three sorts, viz. Case, Baile, and Rompes : and without a garbeller of iudgement and skill haue the handling thereof, they cannot be truely garbelled as they ought to be, for the benefit of the Marchant, and all those that shall buie them. And therefore to performe this true garbelling, they must be sorted and deuided out, every one from the other according to their goodnes, the case nutmegs must be full of oile, the baile nutmegges likewise must containe so much oile in him, that if he be forced betweene the finger & the thumbe, and will not hold, he is then to bee cast among the Rompes : and for expedition, the workeman must siste the duste and peeces from the Rompes and other nutmegges before they deuide them, and that workeman that taketh the charge of their making vp, ought to set



a iust and a true marke vpon the top of the bag, answereable to their goodnes; to the ende that the Grocer may know what he buieth, and with out this order be followed, the marchant shall not iustlie know what hee selleth, nor the Grocer what he buieth.

### *Ginger.*

Likewise, is a spice that is to be deuided into two sorts, viz. large and petit: in this spice there is no great skill to be vsed, considering now the manner of his garbelling. Ginger garbelled at *Antwerpe*, or otherwise vngarbled frō by south: the manner of deuiding is all one, for by a sieue appointed for the purpose ginger is sifted, at the will and pleasure of him that taketh the sieue in hand, and as soone falleth the good through as the bad, and thereby it lieth in the power of the garbeller, to please or displease whome hee will for a rewarde. In this kinde of spice there is no certaintie in garbling; for one while the sieue is too great, and another while too little, but betweene too great and too little, it cannot be truly garbelled: but after the maner of his garbelling, the one sort beeing taken from the other, with a few stones or strawes or other filth therein contained, it is become clean, good, & wholesome for mans body.

Note.

But the manner to handle the same, is to fiste out the dust and lay the ginger vpon a table and to picke the same by hand, viz: the large from

The true  
garbling of  
ginger, is to  
picke it by  
hand vpon  
a table.

the small, and euery rase of Ginger be it great or small hauing substance in it, is to bee tearmed large: and contrariwise, euery rase being long or broad wanting substance, is to be accounted of as petit. This course in garbelling of ginger, by a sworn garbeller being performed, the marchant shal benefit more then heertofores he hath doone, by fiue pound vpon the hundreth, as hath beene prooued. And the retailing grocer shall bee no more deceiued; and the garbeller shall haue his fee (no doubt) answerable to his paines taking.

#### *Gawles.*

Gawles are a commodity for another manner of purpose then for mans sustenance, they serue for Diers, and otherwise to bee vsed, yet notwithstanding there is vnder a pretended colour of deuiding, some care had for the garbelling of them, but not in such manner & forme as they ought to be; expedition in the garbeller is the ouerthrow of the antient deuisions, as it may appeere in the deuiding of these Gaules & other spices. These are deuided into two sorts, but in such manner and order, that it resteth in the disposition of the Garbeller whom hee will please or displease, no vniformitie in the garbelling of them is vsed at any time; but according to the smalnes of the gaule, so is there a sieue appointed, nay rather we should haue saide according to the greatnesse of the owner of them,  
so



so is friendship offered. But nowe to speake of their true manner of garbelling, there ought to be a sieue appointed for the purpose, and the skilfull sworn garbeller ought to haue the handling thereof, to sifte and deuide as the sieue will giue him leaue : this being doone, there resteth then nothing, but to take out the stones, sticks, oake apples, and suche like, and then they are cleane.

*Ryse.*

Ryse is a graine good for mans body, and is to be deuided into two sorts, viz, large and petite. This commodity hath need of an honest, skilfull, and a sworne garbeller, to sift and fan, and otherwise to sorte and deuide the badde Ryse from the good, with such iudgement and skill, that all the good and sweete Ryse may bee knowne from the badde and mustie, and that by the marke he shall sette on, and without a iust and a true marke, al men may be deceiued. For the rise many times may and are oilye, mustie, and full of wormes. There is no way better to reforme what hath beene amissc in the garbelling of this Ryse, then firste to appoint a sieue of a true scantling, to the end to sort and deuide as is abousaid.

Corrupted  
Ryse.

*Amyssees.*

Are a commodity that for the most part come filthy and full of dust and had neede of skilfull

garbellers, otherwise through the foulness of the worke, there passeth many good seedes thorough their sieue which are many times left among the bad to the great losse and hinderance of the grocer. To set forth the manner of their deuisions as they ought to be, is first to sift them cleane from the stalkes and other filth: that being done there resteth behind the greatest labor which must be performed by fanning. And for that the labour thereto belonging is painfull to the workemen, and nothing gainfull; therefore they doo manye times neglect their duties. But to preuent this mischeefe, there is no waie better then to giue suche reasonable allowance as they may iustlie liue by their labour: that being doone, the marchant shall haue no good seedes left in his garbell, neither the grocer bad seedes left in his good. And forsomuch as Anniseedes come many times euillie coloured, and mustie, therefore the sworne Garbeller ought to make known the goodnes, and cleanness of the seeds by his marke set thereon as aforesaid; otherwise the retaylors Grocers may be deceiued.

*Wormeseedes.*

Is a drugge that is much vsed for many purposes, this commoditie had asmuch need of a skilfull garbeller as the Nutmegs, and in some respects more needfull, for Nutmegs are to be deuided by hand vppon a table, and doo require but a little labour in respect of harde working,  
onely



only this, there is great iudgement and skill to be vsed in their deuisions: for wormeseed after that it is sifted, is to be made cleane by fanning, and that by much labour and paines taking. Of all commodities that are to bee garbelled, the workman deserueth not his money better then in this, if he garbell as hee ought to doo. That garbeller that shall handle this drug ought to be skilfull and iust, otherwise the marchants, Grocers, and people shall bee all deceiued, the Marchant in respect of the good seedes lefte among the bad; and the grocer & the rest, by the garbel which they buy among the good. But to preuent the same, it lieth in the power of a skilfull garbeller to remedy at his pleasure, if hee may haue tooles and fee answerable to his skill and paines. And heere is a thing to be remembred, to the saide workemen and others, that wheras there is alwaies as much and more good seedes left in the garbell of wormseeds then bad seeds in the good, and yet many times there are found the fourth part garbel, when they haue doone with the best in such cases as this is: wee wishe with all our harts, that the marchant might haue the garbell which we receiue among the good, and we the good seeds which are to bee found among the garbell, the which mischeefe muste be auoided as is before said; and not else.

More good  
seedes left  
in the gar-  
bel, the bad  
seedes in  
the good.

*Greines, Almonds, Dates, Seenie, Commisfeed,  
Turmerick, and such like.*

G

They

They are to bee garbelled in all fidelitie for the auoiding of deceit. But to set downe particularlie howe euery of these commodities in their kind ought to be garbelled, were a thing too tedious. But for that there is no better way then the antient manner of Garbelling of spices, and the iust packing or putting vppe of the same in such manner as is aforesaid, the which may the better be perfourmed, if your Honor and Worships doo make choise of some honest manne, skiltfull in that Art and action, to reuisit and suruey these workes and workemen, and to put vp the same as is before remembred. Therefore we pray your Lordship, that these causes maye receiue due hearing, the rather for that we are informed that the Clerke of her Maiesties spice-rie haue heerein found out the faults, and doo search after conuenient remedies, as is fit.

*Chap. 10.*

- 1 *The garbellers fee and dutie is set forth.*
- 2 *His notable gaine by the labour of three men.*
- 3 *His exaction is intollerable, in that he will not bee contented with the small rates in spices, where his labour is great.*

**I**N Orsomuche as it maye bee made knowne to all persons what the Garbellors duetic is, the same at large is expressed in an act of common counsell heerevnto added vpon



on purpose, and the rather that it maye also appeere to all, the exaction doone by the garbeller in exceeding the same without warrant. And for that he is not satisfied with the antient rates, nor with his owne exactions therein, but still practiseth to haue a higher rate, it beeing probable that he by the easie labour of three men in the weeke, may by the wages he now receyue, gaine cleerelic five pound and vpwardes, all his charges borne. Therefore wee haue particularlie set foorth some parte of his labours, with diuers reasons, prouing that he hath small cause to find himselfe agreed, or to bee tedious to the marchant about his allowances, or to sue for higher rates, esteeming it a matter of more indifferencie, that the marchants myght rebate the price of those things wherein the garbeller his labour is little, and his gaine great, and to adde the same to such, as his paines are great and his gaines very small. And for prooffe heerof we say as his workmen in their booke to him promised to performe, the which for that purpose we haue also heerevnto annexed: That in

*Pepper.*

By the labor of three men he will garbell in one day viii. bagges of pepper from by south, waieng about xx. C. at vi. d. the hundreth after the maiestrates rate, ariseth to

G 2

But

By exacting  
vpon pep-  
per, gained  
his mennes  
wages, and  
xii. pence  
more then  
his due.

But his extraordinarie rate is two s. vp-  
on euery bag, amounteth to 16 s, out  
of which somme he dooth now allowe  
his men for their workmanship, 7 d, ob,  
vpon euery bag, the which ariseth to v s,  
so that his cleer gaine is 11 s, by the day,

*Cloues.*

He will garbell by the labor of three  
men C, li, waight in one day, his rate  
which is allowed is two, d, for the  
pound, the which ariseth to 16 s, 8 d  
out of which somme he alloweth his  
workemen three farthinges for the  
pound, the which ariseth to 6 s, and  
his proper gaines de claro is,

*Maces.*

Likewise by the labour of three men  
he wil garbel in one day 4, C, waight  
his rate allowed is 2 s, 8 d, the which  
ariseth to

By maces,  
his mennes  
wages gai-  
ned extra-  
ordinarie.

But his extraordinarie rate is 4 s, vp-  
on euery C, waight, groweth to 16 s  
out of the which rate hee doth allow  
his men 16 pence, vpon the C, the  
which is 5 s, 4 d, so his gaines de  
claro is,

*Synamon.*

Also by the labor of 3 men hee will  
garbell in one day x, C, waight of Sy-  
namon, the maiestrais rate is 16 d,  
the C, and thereby his due ariseth to

But



But by his extraordinarie rate he receiue 2, s, 8, d, vpon euery C. waight the which ariseth to 26, s, 8, d, out of which somme, hee alloweth his men x, d, vpon euery C. waight, the which is 8, s, 4, d, and so he gaineth,

18.s.4.d

By Synam<sup>6</sup> gained his mens wages, and 5. s. ouer.

*Nutmegges.*

Three men will garbell in a daye of this spice 6, C, waight and vwardes, at xii. pence the C, beeing the olde rate ariseth to vi, s, for his due,

6.s.

By Nutmegs gayned 5. shil. more then the ancient allowance, besides the ouerplus of his mens wages.

But by his extraordinary rate hee taketh 2, s, 8, d, vpon the C, whereby he raiseth his due to 16, shil, out of which somme his men haue x, pence vpon the hundred waight. And so his gaines is cleerly,

11.s.

*Ginger.*

Ginger also by the labor of his three men he will garbell xxx, C, waight,

15.s.

By ginger gained his mens wages, and 9. pence more then his due.

receiuing for it 6, pence vpon the C,

after the maiestrats rate amounteth to

His extraordinarie rate is 9, d, vpon

the C, waight ariseth to 27, s, 6, d, out

of which sum hee alloweth his men

for workmanship 2, d, ob. vpon the

C waight, ariseth to 6, s, 8, d, so his

gaines de claro is,

15.s.9.d

*Gables.*

By the like labor of three men he will

garbell in one day 40 C, waight of

Gables at six pence the C, after the

maiestrates rate, ariseth to,

20.s.

G 3

But

But by his extraordinary rate he doth  
receiue vpon euery C. waight, viii.d.  
the which ariseth to 26. s. 8.d. out of  
which summe hee alloweth his men  
for workmanship 3.d. vppon the 100.  
waight, groweth to x.s. so his gaine  
is de claro,

16 s. 8. d

*Ryse.*

In this also by the like labour for one  
daies work wil arise for 40. C. waight  
at 6.d. the hundreth being the maie-  
strates rate,

20. S.

But his extraordinary rate, is 8.d. vp-  
on the C. out of which hee alloweth  
his men three pence vpon the C. the  
which is x.s. And his gaine is,

16 s. 8. d

*Amysseedes.*

In these are great labor, yet three men  
will garbell ten C. waight at 6. pence  
the C. in one day, the which after the  
maiestrates rate is

3. s.

His extraordinarie rate is viii.d. vpon  
the C. of which the workemen haue  
three pence vpon the C. the which is  
two s. vi d, and his gaine is,

4. s. 2 d.

*Woorme feede.*

These are alwaies verye fowle, yet by  
the labour of three men, 100 waight,  
may be garbelled in one day: the due  
rate is two pence vppon the pound,  
the which ariseth to

16 s. 8. d

out



Out of which somme he alloweth his  
men three farthings vpon the pound  
the which ariseth to six shillings three  
pence, and so he gaineth, } 10. s. 5. d.

{ Graines, } { Senie. }  
{ Almonds. } { Commifseed. }  
{ Dates, } { Turmerick. }

In these commodities and such like,  
which are not so profitable, but more  
painfull to be clenfed then manye of  
the rest, yet be they neuer so fowle, by  
the labor of three men, in one day he  
doth gaine all charges borne, aboue } 4. s.

## Chap. II.

- 1 That the garbellers petition for reformation to your  
honor, may be conferred heerewith.
- 2 The garbell need not to be taken from the possession  
of the Marchant, if these ordinances be confirmed.
- 3 The manner how these ordinances may be briefed,  
and brought into the forme of lawe and actes of  
common council.



In allie, forsomuch as for want  
of better iudgement, the prin-  
cipall garbellor, by sundry peti-  
tions labourerh to your Lorde-  
ship: and we, that the garbel and  
dust might be packed, conuei-  
ed and disposed, according to his constituti-

ons : and wholie to bee drawne from the possession of the Marchant. Whereby it is to bee inferred, that he accuseth and condemneth the marchant and others, to haue dubbed and falsified the labour of his workemen, by mixing the same with the thing garbelled. And for his countenance therein, produceth the wordes of the Actes of Common counsell before recited, the which we take to be friuolous and not indifferent, yet very sufficient to make the said garbeller maisterfull, and a readie meane to hide and colour his owne follies, making the same his proposition and subiect to talke of. Therefore, and for the preuenting of that poore help, we haue the rather aduanced these old ordinances as aforesaid to be indifferent, and to quallifie that point of the said Act, in yeelding vp the said garbell and dust to the chamberlaine, or to any other. For if by your wisdomes it shall bee enacted, that this manner of garbelling before recited, shall be obserued : and that such marks be set and made vppon euery sort, as is heerein set forth ; Then no abuse can or may arise but it may bee knowne, by whome the same cometh ; wherby remedie may be had accordinglie, neither can any garbell or dust, be imploied or vsed as the garbeller surmiseth againste the Marchant and others. And therefore not necessarie for him to parte therewith to the garbeller or to any other : but more requisite to be from them deteined.

And



And nowe for an ende heerein, these shorte waies and manner of garbling, which wee haue remembred and set forth being obserued, will bring vs all to an agreement, the which beeing denied or misregarded, these our petitions and reasons beeing once made knowne, the curses of those that shall suffer detriment in these affaires, we know cannot light vpon vs, but vpon the Authors of such offenses. And forsomuche as the body is preserued, by reason of that proportion, which euery member beareth towards it: so it is to be conceiued, that in this mysterie of the Grocerie, beeing compounded of the marchant, warehousemen, and the retaylors, each member shoulde carrie the same and like reason of proportion, for the sustentation thereof, the which cannot be had without the vnitie aforesaid. The which thing vndoubtedlie will come to passe, if these ordinances may bee by your wisdomes with the graue aduise of the councellors and cominaltie of this famous Citie, ratified and reduced into forme of lawe. Whereby euery party to this exercise, may bee constrained to walke in his vocation. Wherein we doo assure our selues, that you doo care, to direct your wil and works to the seruice of god, the Queenes maiestie and this our country, for whose seruice we all do liue.

Euery member dooth carry helpe to maintain the body according to his proportion.

Al ought to liue for the seruice of their prince & countrey.

FINIS.

H

Heere ensueth the petition and orders, required of the workemen in garbelling of the principall garbeller, for the dissolving of such complaintes as were mooued against them (as they pretend) the which for that the same do conteine many things worthie to be regarded: therefore we haue added the same to this discourse, as very pertinent thereto.

**I**T may please your worship to be informed, that forso-much as it hath pleased you to aduise vs the companie of workemen to your office of garbelling, to assemble together, and to set downe such matter, as might shew the waies & meanes how to remoue the controuerfies, which are oftentimes stirred againste vs, and mooued amongst our selues, and how your Worshipp may reape more gaine by our common accord, then heeretofore you haue doone. Therefore we haue brieflie set downe in articles, the matters of our requestes, wherein if it shall please you, to answer vs in that mutuall care and consideration, by vniting and preferring vs, whereby our common gaines may bee multiplied: then wee shall not onely thinke our selues men altogether of myserable fortune, to haue ledde our liues in that exercise and office, whereby such dissention and preposterous orders are maintained, the which maye bee eased and redressed,



dressed, without hindrance or preiudice vnto your office, but also we shall be inforced to seek our remedie, and complaine to the Citty, or to hir Maiestie and Councell, for that wee shall hold the deniall heerof, & your meaning thereby to be suspected, and purposed to holde vs in debate and controuersie one with another. The which may and will bee auoided, in forme following;

Inprimis, Omitting to moue your worship, for the obtaining of anye priuiledges for your workemen or office (albeit the like is vsed, towarde the workemen of the mint by reason of that office) and laieng aside such benefit as doth appertaine to your office, by not garbelling diuers things, which by vertue of your grant, are to be by vs garbled. And for auoiding of inuouation or alteration of any matter to your office appertaining, we onlie beseech your wor. to grant vnto vs this rate and price, the which we haue set downe in certain, vpon such things as are vsuallie garbled by vs, the allowing wherof, will not draw you into so great charge, wee working according to the same rate, as our working now dooth at xii. pence the day, as is heer-after prooued.

Pepper the bag,	8 d.	Wormseede the hun-	
or else by the hundred		dred,	6 s. 8 d.
waight,	4 d.	Nutmegs deuided in-	
Cloues the C,	6 s. 8 d.	to case, baile, & romps,	
Maces the C,	18 d.	the hundred,	2 s.

Synamon the C. 12, d Gum arabeck the C, 3, d  
 Graines the C, 4, d Bayberies the C, 2, d  
 Ryse the C, 3, d Dates the C, 4, d  
 Anniseedes the C, 6, d Orchall the C, 6, d  
 Commiseed the C, 6, d Mastick the C, 4, d  
 Turmerick the C, 3, d Frankenfence the C. 6, d  
 Gawles the C, 3, d Orris the C, 3, d  
 Senie the C, 2, s, 6, d Staues acre the C, 3, d  
 Nutmegs the hundred, Gallingall the C, 6, d  
 the rompes beeing onely Serwall the C, 6, d  
 taken out, 12, d Long pepper the C, 6, d  
 Cassia fistula the C, 12, d Spignard the C, 12, d  
 Colianders the C, 3, d Ginger the C, 4, d

But for such sorts of wares as are perished, wet  
 rotten or worme eaten, wherein much labour  
 is to bee bestowed, wee except the rate sette  
 downe.

*The prooffe of the gaine heereby.*

The gaines which shall or may redounde to  
 you, by the labour of all your woorkemen now  
 employed, and by their labourers associat, by  
 allowing of the saide rates required, ariseth vn-  
 to in the yeere, aboue one hundreth poundes,  
 more then you doo now receiue by their work  
 (allowing but xii. pence to each workeman and  
 viii. pence to euery labourer *per diem*) if they do  
 worke all the yeere; or ratable for the time of  
 their worke, as by this example it may appeere.

Three



Three workemen and their labourer, being allowed the wages of iii.s. 8, d. doo garbell six bags of pepper, for the which your dutie is xii, s. & your cleer gaines 8, s, 4, d, by the day, the which in the week, your charges defaultked is, But these foure being allowed 8, pence vpon the bagge, will garbell eight bags by the day, for the which they shall receiue v.s. 4 pence, and your due therby is cleer gains 10.s. 8 d, the which in the week your charges defaultked is, three pound 4. s. and so your gaine is more in the week, by 14.s. then it was before

2.li. x.s

3.li. 4.s

Thus it appeereth that your workemen shall multiplie your gaine, and better their wages, viz : to euery workman six pence, and to the labourer two pence by the daye, more than they before receiued, so that the labourer shall haue x, d, & the workmen 18, d, a peece, by the day.

Also that it may appeere to you, that the gain growing heerby ariseth not to so much by your allowing of this rate, for in this allowance of 8 pence vpon the bag of pepper, ariseth but to 4 pence more, then was paide for working of the same at xii, d, the day, as that it must be performed by our dilligence and sore labor, wherein it may bee you will demand of vs, why wee should not accomplish that labour for you, vpon that wages of twelue pence the day, as we would and offer to doo, if the rate of viii. pence

vpon the bagge were allowed vnto vs.

Thervnto our answer is, that the first & chiefest fault is in your selfe, for that when som store of worke is in hand, you doo appoint vs (your workemen) in suche companies, that beeing some of vs placed where a monthes worke is; will lengthen and make the same six weekes, by reason, that they knowe that the workes of the rest of the companies by you appointed, will so soone bee doone, that they shall haue no businesse therein, and heereby some doo work, and some do play, & diuers other further mischiefs doo arise, the which matter must be redressed in forme heereafter expressed, with your fauourable assent or otherwise by some further authoritie.

The second fault is, that some of these companies so by you appointed, by imbecilitie can doo no better, and oftentimes you doo ioine with vs new commers, whose workes are caste vpon the others necks, and the last and cheefest cause is for that men of iudgement and skil, can not haue such tooles, as they in truth ought to haue for expedition, the which they will provide, if accord be made as is decent.

And forsomuch as these mischeefes & faultes haue produced other inconueniences, aswell to you as to vs, viz: for that your selfe is thereby growne into disfaueur with diuers marchantes and grocers, and for your ease or fantasie, you giue out hard words against vs, whome neuerthelesse



thelesse you doo imploye; Whereby also often times wee are grudged at and disdained, the which we as not looking to the ground of these imperfections, whereby to seeke for better remedie, thinking our selues abused, returne the same againe.

For the bettering and auoiding of which inconueniences, wee haue agreed amongst our selues, (if you shall please to yeeld to the sayde rate required) howe to liue by our worke, in loue and concorde together, and by what companies, and in what sorte. Whereby not onelie these discordes maye bee dissolued, but your gaine shall bee perfourmed to the vttermoste, and your selfe quieted; to our good reporte, and your owne profite, and for the commoditie of all those whose businesse wee shall take in hand.

*Our agreement beeing nine workemen with eight Labourers nowe imployed, whose number are not to be increased, will handle all the businesse as is declared in this manner following.*

H 4

## The nine Workemen.

Horton.  
Hambleton.  
Huxley.

Nutting.  
Neale.  
Wright.

Boomer.  
Freeman.  
Denshire

## The eight Labourers.

Archer.  
Warner.  
Phillips.  
Aire.

Harrison.  
Chadwicke.  
Smith.  
Morris.

If the worke shal lie in one place, then thus.

Horton.	Boomer.
Huxley.	Neale.
Hambleton.	wright.
Freeman.	Nutting
Denshire.	Archer.



If the worke fall out in two places, then these shall worke.

Horton.  
Huxsley.  
Nutting  
wright.  
Boomer

Neale.  
Hableto  
Deshire.  
Freema.  
Archer.

If in three places, then thus.

Huxsley.  
Horton.  
Nutting.  
Harrison.

Hambleton.  
Wright.  
Boomer.  
Archer.

Neale.  
Denshire.  
Freeman.  
Aire.

If the worke shal lie in foure places, then thus.

Horton.  
Huxsley.  
Nutting.  
Harrison.

Wright.  
Hambleton.  
Boomer.  
Aire.

Neale.  
Warner.  
Smith.  
Aire.

Freeman.  
Denshire.  
Chadwicke.  
Phillips.

Our agreement further is, that the rate wee require being allowed, the oucrplus of the money leuied by the saide rate, more then twelue pence the day, by anye companies that labour, shall be equallye deuided amongst them that labour not.

Our agreement further is, that if the workemen in one place may be dispatched by three or foure, or fewer, that then those that shall work, to be elected by consent of all the rest, who shall giue an account to the rest, of their worke, and value thereof.

Also we agree that one man shall bee named and appointed by vs of our said companie, not onely to trauell and to see howe and where our worke shall fall out, but also we agree that euerie of the said companies which shall be dispersed, shall be placed and appointed to their work, by the said person so to be nominated amongst vs, who shall ouersee our workes in all places.

Item, we agree that a booke shall bee made and kept by him, in the which the somme and particulers of our worke shall be set downe, as well for the preservation of your dutie, as for many necessarie causes to our selues apperteyning about our owne gaine.

Item, we agree euery morning in the time of worke, to repaire to your house, for your direction notwithstanding, and to informe you of the premises; the which if you can aduise to better, or shall discerne any fault, then to giue  
di.



directions accordinglie.

The which matters and agreements considered, it will plainelie appeere, that the same tendeth not to our owne gaine so much, as to the credit of the office, our quiet, and your great auaille. And for prooffe also heereof if need shall be, we can and will produce a certificat, request, and petition of the best & expertest marchants, and Grocers in London, testifieng and desiring that the same may so proceed, for diuers reasons by them vsed, not to be reiected, they finding themselves agreeued, and do surmise;

- 1 Firste, that by reason of our small wages many of vs doo better the same, by imbezelling of their commodities.
- 2 Item, That we doo prolong our work, vppon purpose to be alwaies occupied, and thereby doo trouble their houses longer then reason, to greeue them and to annoy their affaires.
- 3 Item, That there is no ouerseer in that worke, so that the Grocers affirme, that many things are badlie handled, and the marchantes doo impute it to vs, but the Grocers doo alledge that we are bribed, to amende our small wages.

Therefore, and to auoid all surmises by marchants and Grocers, wee haue further thought it good, to accept it by an oath from the Lorde maior, if these our requests be allowed and confirmed by authoritie. And the rather, not only to shew our true and plaine meaning in your affaires, but cheeflie to draw from you all suspiti-

on, and obiections, which you for want thereof may in any wise conceiue againste these our said requests howsoeuer. And vppon the saide oath taken, wee require to haue in our seuerall bonds, to you made, for our true and good dealing, it beeing sufficient to passe our oathes in this behalf, without any bond or other writing.

*The Oath we meane to take.*

**Y**ou shall sweare that you shall well and honestlie behaue your selfe in the office and action of Garbelling, within the Cittie of London, without stealing, imbeazelling, or vnlawfulle, or vnhonestlie conueieng away any part of such spices as are lefte to your charges, in any Marchants house, or elsewhere.

You shall asmuch as in you shall lie, garbell and clense all manner of spices, drugs, and marchandize iustlie, trulie, and indifferently, according to your skill and iudgement, without respect of any person or persons whosoeuer.

And in these & in al other things, that to the office of garbelling apperteineth, during the time of your worke, you shall well and truelie behaue your selfe, so God shall helpe you.

Furthermore our conclusion and request is, that you may be pleased to yeeld to our said desires: and that if heerevnto you can obiect any thing to the contrarie, it may also please you, to  
set



set downe in writing, and that with speed, your  
 said obiections, to the end that we may answer  
 the same : otherwise wee trust you will pardon  
 vs, if wee doo sue for the censure of the Lorde  
 Mayor to be giuen in our saide requestes, it be-  
 ing more conuenient to allowe of the said rates,  
 then either to reteine six men to worke, & three  
 Labourers at a certeine fee by the yeere, and to  
 bind them to execute all the saide worke, or o-  
 therwise to allowe xviii. pence by the daye, for  
 euery daies worke to the workemen, the rather,  
 for that the rest will not bee dismissed, it beeing  
 their exercise, nor they will not willinglye sub-  
 iect themselues to be appointed to anye places  
 of worke, otherwise then by their owne accord  
 and assent, as before is described, and as they  
 haue agreed vppon, to the which agreemente,  
 they doo subscribe their names, and doo require  
 to haue it ratified and confirmed by your wor-  
 ship, to whome the office apperteineth as wee  
 thinke. In witnesse whereof, wee haue caused  
 this to bee made, and by vs vnder written the  
 xiiii. day of October, in Anno. 1590.

*Subscribed.*

Thomas Horton, gro.	John Freeman, grocer.
John Neale.	William Hambleto, gr.
Thomas wright.	Richard Huxsley.
John Nutting.	John Boomer.
Robert Warner, grocer.	John Harrison, grocer.
John Deuonshire, Grocer.	

Heere insueth the Acts of Common Councell  
before remembred, made in Anno xviii. of  
King Henry the eight : and in Anno the se-  
conde of King Edward the sixt, concerning  
the Garbelling of spices, drugges, and Mar-  
chandize, in London.

*Commune Consilium tent. apud Guildhall Ciuitatis  
London, vicesimo septimo, die Februarii, An.  
Regni Regis Henrici Octauī, xviii.  
in presentia.*

<i>Thome Seymer, Mil. Maioris.</i>	
<i>Iohannis Baker, Recordatoris.</i>	
<i>Gulihelm. Butler.</i>	
<i>Thome Exmew.</i>	} <i>Millit.</i>
<i>Iohannis mundi.</i>	
<i>Thome Bauldry.</i>	
<i>Iohannis Allin.</i>	
<i>Iacobi Spencer.</i>	} <i>Ader- men.</i>
<i>Michaelis English.</i>	
<i>Iohannis Rudstone.</i>	
<i>Radulphi Doder.</i>	
<i>Iohannis Hardy.</i>	
<i>Christopherei Ascue.</i>	
<i>Henrici Dacres.</i>	
<i>Stephani Peacock, &amp;</i>	<i>Vicecomites</i>
<i>Nicholai Lambert,</i>	<i>Scuit. eiusd. &amp;c.</i>





**A**T this Common counsell the Garbeller of spices exhibited a bill, concerning the garbelling of certain spices, & other things which then & there was openly red and well vnderstood, and therevpon agreed and granted, that it shoulde bee entered of recorde as it is, and so to bee continued, adding therevnto this cause of prouiso.

Prouided alwaies that all such bagges of pepper being of the waight of two C. or aboue, that ought to be garbelled, and beeing marked with the marke of the hand of Antwerpe, vpon the opening thereof, by the garbeller or his deputie, be found well and truely garbelled, and no refuse or garbel in effect therin found, aboue the waight of one pound and a halfe; that then and so often the saide garbeller or his deputie, shall nothing aske or require, by reason of his said office, of the owner of any of the said bags, for opening of the same. And if any thinge bee misordered by the said Garbeller or his deputy, by reason of any partialtie, or othetwise in executing of the saide office: that then the reformation thereof, and also the penalties to be laid vpon the garbeller or his deputie, to be doone from time to time, by the good discretions of the maior and Aldermen for the time beeing, &c.

The garbeller or his deputie to be punished for not performing their duty.

*To the right Honorable Lord, the lord Mayor of this  
Cittie of London, and the Worshipfull Aldermen,  
his brethren, and to the discrete commons, of this  
present Common counsell assembled.*



**I**N full humble wise sheweth vn-  
to your good Lordship and ma-  
sterships, your Suppliant & Ci-  
tizen Robert Cooper garbeller.  
That whereas by Act of Com-  
mon counsell, holden the xvii.  
day of September, in the 4. yeere of the raigne  
of our most dread Soueraigne Lord that nowe  
is, K. Henry the eight, it was enacted, That all  
manner of spices, drugges, and other marchan-  
dize, after that time to be brought and conuey-  
ed from the parts of Flaunders, into this realme  
of Englande, marked with the marke of Ant-  
werp, or Brudges, called the right hand, should  
not by the Garbeller be garbelled heere; forso-  
much as it was then supposed, that all manner  
of spices, drugs, and other marchandize, that  
did bring the saide marke verie trulie garbelled  
and clensed: by colour whereof, diuers & sun-  
dry marchants, sithence that time hitherto, haue  
vsed to bring and conuey, and yet daiely doo,  
from the said parts into this Realme and Cittie  
of London, great substance of spices, drugges,  
and other marchandize, bearing the said mark  
of the hand, and the same heere put to sale, with  
spices,



spices, drugs, & marchandize, notwithstanding the said marking, being heere found ful of dust, fusses, filthes, and other garbell not onelye to the great deceite and losse of the Kinges liege people, of all degrees, eating and vsing the same in meates and drinckes, and otherwise, and besides that manie great complaintes, rumors, and exclamations, haue therevpon ensued, by a great number of personnes which haue founde themselves agreed in that behalfe. Wherefore it hath pleased my L. Maior and my masters his Brethren, knowing the kings most high pleasure in that behalfe, at a court of Aldermen, to admit & authorise your saide suppliant vnto the saide office of garbelling, giuing him in commandment, to garbel and clesse al maner of spices, drugs, and marchandise, which ought to be garbelled, as well those that be marked with the said marke of the right hand, as all other vnmarked or otherwise marked, according to which authoritie and commandment, your said supp. and officer hath taken vpon him to garbell and hath garbelled amongst other, all such diuers & sundry spices, drugs, & other marchandise marked with the said marke of the right hande, and found in them great quantities of dust, filth, and garbell, which he hath heer in Guildhal redy to be shewed. Pleseth it therefore your good L. and masterships, the said deceipts and other the premises tenderlye considered, to inact, ordeine, and stablish, nowe at this Common council, &

K

by

by the authoritie of the same, that your said suppliant and Garbeller, and all other succeeding in that roome, within this Cittie, may and shal haue all power and authoritie from henceforth duelic, truelye, and indifferentlie, from time to time, to garbell and cense all manner of spices, drugs, and other marchandize, the particular names whereof heereafter ensue, as well such, and as many of them as bee marked with the marke of the said hande, as all other beeing otherwise marked or vnmarked. That is to say.

*Pepper, Ginger, Cloues, Maces, Nutmegges, Woormseed, Galingall, Goome, Setwall, Cinnamon, Long pepper, Spignard, Graines, Comin-seeds, Anniseeds, Frankinsence, Senie, Cassia Fistula, Almonds, Morriswax, Gawles, Coliandersced, Bayberries, Dates, Rife, Masticke, Turmerick, Orris, Stauesacre, Orchall, and Littmus.*

And moreouer to enact and stablishe that no marchant or marchants, Freeman, or foriner, inhabiting within this Cittie or suburbs of the same, nee anye marchant stranger, from hencefoorth, take vpon him or them, nor any other for them, or in their names, or in the name of any of them, to vtter or sell, ingrose or retayle, within this Cittie of London, any manner spices, drugs, or other marchandize aforenamed, before that it bee garbelled, tried, and made cleane, by the saide garbeller or his deputie or depu-



deputies, for the time being, and sealed with the seale of the said office, as of olde time accustomed, whereby it shall or may euidentlie appeer to the buiers thereof, good, cleane, perfect, and wholesome, as well for mans bodie, as otherwise to be vsed, vpon forfeiture of losing of all such spices, drugs, and other marchandize, so sould vngarbelled, and vnclensed, or to the value therof, to the vse of the Comminaltie of the Cittie, and for euery hundred waight or bags of Spices, drugs, or other marchandize, bought and sold, contrarie to this ordinance, the seller and buier thereof, shall forfeit and pay at euery time that they so offend forty shillings equallie betweene them to be borne and paied, and the same money to bee deuided into three partes, (that is to say) the one part thereof to the vse of the Mayor and comminaltie of this Cittie. The second part to the wardens and fellowship of Grocers, and the thirde parte to the taker, that first shall take, and seize any such spices, drugs, or other marchandize bought, or sold, contrarie to this ordinance. And moreouer be it enacted and established by the authoritie of this Common counsell, that it shall be lawfull for euery person or persons, vpon due prooffe thereof made, if any forfeit or forfeitures, as dooth appeere aboue rehearsed, for to bee recouered againste euery manner of person or persons so offending by action of debt, and that it shall not bee lawfull for the partie defendant, in no

wise to wage the lawe, wherby the partie plaintiffe, shall or may lose his sute, nor yet no protection allowed in that behalfe.

Provided alwaies in that behalfe, and bee it further enacted, that the Garbeller his deputie and deputies for the time being, shall take, beare, and carrie awaye, and towardes him or them to reteine all manner of garbell and garbels, as dust, fuffes, and other filth, that hee or they at any time heereafter shall happen to garbell, trie and clense, out of all and euery manner drugs and other marchandize, to the intent and purpose, that no person shall estsoones put, mix, or intermeddle the said garbell into or with any manner of spices, drugs, or other marchandize, in auoiding and eschewing the great flaunder and rebukes, that by occasion of such intermeddling might growe and redound vnto your saide officer, his deputie or deputies, beeing thereof gilleffe and innocent. And that the owner of all such dust, fuffes, and other filthe, shall finde and provide a bagge or bagges, to bestowe and put in the same garbells and other filthe, and thereof shall take the iuste and true waight, the saide Garbeller his deputie or deputies, shall marke vpon the said bagge or bagges, and thereon the owner shall set on his seale, and the sayd bagge or bagges so waied, marked, and sealed, the said Garbeller his deputie or deputies, for the time beeing, shall immediatlie at the costes of the saide owner, carrie and conuey to the

Guild-



Guildhall in London, there to remaine in sure keeping, vnder the keyes of the saide Garbeller and of the controller of the chamber of London, vnto suche time as the owner of euerye such garbell and garbels, shall make and deliver vnto one of the said two officers, or to their deputies a bill obligatorie, wherein they shall stand bounde vnto the chamberlaine of London for the time being, in such somme of monie as by one of the said two officers shall be thought good and reasonable, that the same owner shal conuey, or cause to bee conueyed the saide garbell and garbells vnto the parts of beyond the seas, by a certaine daye to bee limited, by the saide two officers or one of them, and that the owner thereof shall pay for housroome and keeping of euery such bagge, one halfe pennie euery weeke, as longe and by all the time thar hee shall suffer any such bagge to lie and remaine.

Prouided also that if the owner or owners of anye such bagge or bagges of garbell, suffer the same to be and continue in the saide Guildhall, ouer and aboue the space of nine moneths, that then the said bagge or bagges with the garbell to be and remaine there still as goodes forfeited and confiscate to the vse of the communitie of the Cittie of London, And that the Maior of the same citty for the time being within a moneth then next ensuing shal appoint and prouide for the sure conueieng thereof vnto the partes of beyond the seas, ther to be sold to

the most aduantage and the money comminge of the sale to be deliuered to the chamberlaine of London for the time being, to the vse of the common weale of the said Cittie, and all suche garbell, dust, fuffes, and other filth, which is tried and clenfed as is aforesaid, and beeing of no value nor substance, shall bee conueied into Cheape, or into some other conuenient place, within this Cittie at the pleasure and commandement of the Mayor, for the time being, and there to be openly burnt in the sight of the people, so that they maye well see and perceiue the good order and iustice truelie executed in that behalfe.

*The Rates and prises what the garbeller shall take for garbelling all manner of Spices, and other things that ought to be garbelled, rated, and prised, the xiii. of August, Anno 1526. by the wardens of the grocers in london, and the sociates, as heereafter dooth ensue.*

{ The rate of the } { Maiestrates. }	{ The exaction of } { the garbeller. }
Pepper from by south the C. 6. d.	xii. d.
Pepper and Ginger with the } marke of Antwerp or Brud- } ges, if it need to bee garbled } the C. }	{ 4. d      6. d }
Cloues not cleane that need to } be picked by hand, the pound is }	{ 2. d.

Maces



{ The rate of the } { Maieſtrates. }	{ The exaction of } { the garbeller. }
Maſes not garbled, the C. waight, 2.s, 8.d.	4.s.
Wormefeede the li.	2.d
Nutmegs the hundred,	12.d
Gallingall the C,	x,d.
Setwall the C,	12,d
Synamon the C.	16,d
Long pepper the C,	16,d
Spignard the C,	2,s.
Graines the C,	6,d
Almonds the C,	6,d
Ryſe the C,	4,d
Annifeedes the C,	6,d
Comminſeed the C,	6,d
Gawles the C,	6,d
Moreſwax the C,	4,d
Senie the C,	3.s, 4,d
Caſſia fiſtula the C,	2,s.
Colianders ſeed the C,	5,d
Gum arabeck the C,	4,d
Bayberies the C,	2,d
Dates the C,	6,d
Turmerick the C,	4,d
Orchall the C,	6,d
Litmus the C,	3,d
Maſtick the C,	6,d
Frankenſence the C.	12,d
Orris the C,	6,d
Staues acre the C,	6,d

2.s. 8.d

2.s. 8,d

8.d

8.d

8.d

12.d

8.d

8.d

4.s.

8,d

8.d

4.d

12,d

8,d

8.d

8.d

K 4

But

But all manner of wares wet with water, rotten or brused wherein there is much labor, and long time, that then, as the marchant and the officer can agree for the dooing thereof, and if they cannot agree, that then the wardens of the Grocers for the time beeing, to bee indifferent iudges betweene them.

*Commune Consilium tent. apud Guildhall Ciuitatis  
London, desimo septimo, die Iunii, Anno.  
Regni Edwardi Sexti, secundo,  
Coram.*

<i>Iohanne Gresham, Mil. Maioris.</i>	} Millit.
<i>Robarto Brooke, Ar. Recordatoris</i>	
<i>Randolpho Warren.</i>	
<i>Gulielmo Iaxton.</i>	
<i>Martino Bowes.</i>	
<i>Iohanne Tolis.</i>	
<i>Iohanne Wilford.</i>	
<i>Andrea Iud.</i>	
<i>Georgio Barne.</i>	} Adermen.
<i>Gulielmo Locke.</i>	
<i>Augustino Hinde.</i>	
<i>Richardo Turke.</i>	
<i>Henriccho goodier.</i>	
<i>Iohanne Lyon.</i>	
<i>Iohanne ambert,</i>	
<i>Gulielmo garrerd.</i>	
<i>Thome White &amp; Vicecomites</i>	
<i>Robarto Chartsey. ciuit. eiusd. &amp; c.</i>	
<i>Ac maiore parte Comunitatis, Comūis consilii ciuitatis predict. existente.</i>	





Also at this court a bill was deuised and drawne, by the learned counsell of this Cittie, by the commandement and assente of the Lorde Mayor, and Aldermen of the same cittie, for and concerning the garbelling and cleansing of all such spices, drugs, wares and marchandise, as heeretofore haue vsed or ought to be garbelled or clenfed, within the said cittie and the lyberties thereof, was redde and by the commons presentlie assembled, wel and ripelie conceiued and vnderstand, and because the same and the matter therein contained, vnto them to be good consonant vnto reason, and profitable for the common-weale, for all our said souereigne lord the kings subiects. It was therefore ordained, enacted, and established, by the said lord maior and Aldermen, and commons in the said counsell assembled, and by the authoritie of the same. That the said bill shall be entered and ingrossed of record, for a good & profitable law, act, and ordinance at all times heerafter, firmitie and inuiolable to be obserued, obeied, and kept in every point, according to the tenor, true meaning, and effect of the same; vpon the severall paines and penalties therein mentioned and conteyned, the tenor of which bill heereafter ensueth.

**Where**



Hereby the Acte of Common  
 councell, holden in the Cham-  
 ber of the Guildhall of the cit-  
 tie of London, the xx. of Fe-  
 bruarie 1526. in the xviii. yeere  
 of the raigne of our late Soue-  
 raigne Lord, of most worthie memorye Kinge  
 Henrye the eight, before sir Thomas Seimer  
 knight, then Lord Mayor of the said cittie, and  
 the Aldermen of the same, it was amongst o-  
 ther things enacted & establisht, by the said L.  
 mayor aldermen & cōmons, in the same cōmon  
 councell then assembled, and by the authority  
 of the same, that all kindes of sortes of spices,  
 drugges, and marchandize speciallie recited &  
 perticularlie expressed, within the same acte  
 wheresocuer they were garbled, as well those  
 that are marked with the right hande of Ant-  
 werp, Brudges, and Roane, as all other marked  
 or vnmarked, & all other which of right ought  
 and of long time then past, according to good  
 and antient lawes and ordinanances, in that be-  
 halfe made and prouided, had beene accusto-  
 med to be garbelled within the said Citry, and  
 the liberties thereof, by the common garbeller  
 of spices, of the same citry, therevnto lawfullie  
 appointed, by the Lord Mayor of the said Cit-  
 tie, for the time being, before that the same spi-  
 ces, drugges, and marchandise, or anye parcell  
 thereof, were or should be put to sale, vttered,  
 or



or sold, and that the garbell, fusses, and dust taken, garbelled, and clenfed, out of the said spices, drugs, wares, and marchandize, should be brought and conueied by the same garbeller to the Guildhall aforefaid, to be from thence conueied and transported within a certeine tyme limited, by the said Act of Common counsell, made the xx. day of Februarie, in the said xviii. yeere of the said late king, into the partes beyond the seas, and otherwise be disposed vpon certeine paines and penalties, in the same Acte menthioned and expresse, as by the same Act it doth and may more fullie appeer vpon record. By the which said act of common counsell, or yet by any other like acte concerning the garbelling and clenfing of the said spices, drugs, & marchandize, hitherto made and provided, there is not any certein time limited or appointed, within which the owners and possessors of such spices, drugs, and marchandize, hitherto made and provided, there is not anye certeine time limited or appointed, within which the owners & possessors of such spices, drugs, and marchandize, keeping the same longe in theyr custodie and possession, doo many times by covert, secret, and fraudulent waies and meanes, vtter and sell the same, before that it bee seene, searched, garbelled or clenfed, by the said common garbeller, or his deputie or deputies, to the no little losse, dammage, and perrill, of all the buiers and occupiers thereof, for remedie

and reformation whereof: *ad idem* *hinc* *blot*  
 in Bee it ordered, established, and enabled, by  
 this present common counceyl, & by the aucthe-  
 ritie of the same, That the same former Acte of  
 common counceyl, made the saide xviii. yeere of  
 the reigne of our late soueraigne lord K. Henry  
 the viii. concerning the garbelling of spices,  
 drugs, and marchandise, shall stande, continue,  
 and remaine, in full strength, force, and effect;  
 adding and adioyning therevnto, that if anye  
 person or persons at any time heereafter, do re-  
 taine or keep, or cause to be kept, in his or their  
 possession, or in the possession of any other per-  
 son or persons, any manner of bag, chest, vessell,  
 or remnant of any of the saide spices, drugs, or  
 marchandise, what marke or seale soeuer they  
 are, or any of them shall haue or beare vpon the;  
 and do not cause the same to be duly garbelled  
 or sealed, by the said common garbeller, or his  
 sufficient deputie or deputies, within the space  
 of 4. months after the bringing of the same mar-  
 chandise, into the said citty or the liberties ther-  
 of, Almonds, Rise, and dates, alwaies excepted,  
 that then all and euery such person or persons,  
 having or keeping in form aforesaid, any parte  
 or parcell thereof, as it shal please the owners of  
 the same to reserue & keepe for his or their own  
 proper expenses, in his or their own houses, be-  
 ing vnder the waight of one quarter of a hun-  
 dred yngarbelled, and vnclensed, contrary to the  
 tenor and effect of this present Acte and ordi-  
 nance,



nanoe, shall forfeit and pay because to be paid  
for every bag, chest, vessel, remnant, and par-  
cell, of all the said spices, drugs, and marchan-  
dize, except before excepted, so being vngar-  
bled, and kept by the space of foure monethes,  
xxvi s. 8. d. in the name of a paine.

And further be it enacted by the authoritie  
aforesaid, that if any chest, vessel, bagge, parcel  
or remnant of Almonds, Rife, and Dates, bee  
now or heereafter shall be in forme aforesaid,  
kept, or reserved, by the owner or owners, kee-  
per or keepers of the same, not garbled & clen-  
sed, by the saide garbeller his lawfull deputie or  
deputies, within halfe a yeer next after the bring-  
ing of the same Almonds, Rife, and Dates, in-  
to the said Citie, or liberties thereof. That then  
every such person & persons, shall forfeite and  
paie for every such chest, vessel, and bagge,  
remnant, and parcell of Almondes, Rife, and  
Dates so kepte vngarbled, other then suche as  
shall be kept for his or their owne necessary vse  
and expences, within their own household, con-  
trarie to the tenor and effect of this present act,  
and ordinances, xxvi s. 8. d. in the name of a  
paine.

Provided alwaies, and bee it further enacted  
by the authoritie aforesaid, that this present act  
nor any thing therein contained, do not in any  
wise stretch or extend, to the hurt, damage, or  
griefe of any person or personnes, for not gar-  
belling or cleansing, of anye of the saide kinde

of spices, drugs, and marchandise, which nowe are and do remaine in the custodie, and possession of any person or persons, of the said Cittie or the liberties of the same, within the seuerall times before limited and appointed, for the same, so alwaies that all and euery such person and persons, now hauing as is aforesaid, any of the said sortes of spices, drugges, and marchandize, within the said cittie, or the liberties thereof, doo cause the same, and euery part and parcell thereof (excepte as is before excepted) to be garbelled and clenised by the said Common garbeller or his sufficient deputie or deputies, within foure moneths now next ensuing, without fraud or further delaie.

Provided also, and bee it enacted by the authoritie aforesaid, that if any person or persons at any time or times heereafter, doo vter or sell or cause to be sold, or put to sale, or conuey out of the said cittie, any bag, chest, vessell, parcell, or remnant, of the said spices, drugges, or marchandize, being of the cleere value of x. pound, and vpwards, before they or any of them shall be garbled, and sealed by the common garbeller, or by his deputie or deputies, as is aforesaid, contrarie to the tenor, true meaning, and effect of this present act, or of the saide former act, That then euery such offender; and offenders, shall forfeit for euery such bag, chest, vessell, parcell, and remnant, of the spices, drugs, and Marchandize, ten pound sterling, and not aboue,



aboue, and for euerye bagge, cheft, vessell, parcell, or remnant of spices, drugges, and Marchandize, being vnder the vallue of ten pound, to forsaite such paine and penaltie for the same, as is conteined in the saide former Act, mentioned or conteined, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And further be it ordained, and enacted, by the said aucthoritie, That if anye person or persons, at any time heereafter, do mingle or mix, or intermeddle any manner of kind, part or parcell of garbell or garbels of the spices, drugges, or Marchandize aforesaid, to the cleane spices, drugs, or marchandize, after that the same spices, drugs, & marchandise, or any of them haue beene censed and garbelled by the common garbeller, or by his deputie or deputies, to the intent to deceiue any of the kinges liedge people therewith, that then euery such offender, & offenders, shall cleerelie lose and forfeit, al such spices, drugges, and marchandise, so mixed or mingled, and forty shillinges more, for euerie such offence, to the vses and intents heervnder expressed.

Provided also and be it enacted by the aucthoritie aforesaid; That if anie maner of person or persons, at any time heereafter, doo conuey or bring, or cause to bee conueyed or to bee brought, to the said Cirtie or the liberties thereof, any manner of garbell or garbels, of anie of the said spices, drugges, or Marchandise, by it

selfe, from any of the partes or beyond the seas, to the intent to vtter or sell the same within the said Cittie or liberties therof, That all & euery person or persons so offending, shall forfeit and lose all the said garbell and garbels, and also ten pound sterling, for euery time so doing, and to be employed and deuided as heereafter shall be declared.

Provided also and be it enacted, that all and euery the forfeitures, paines and penalties, aswel of spices, drugges, and marchandize, as of the sommes of money aboue mentioned and expressed within this present Acte, or within the said former Act, before, in and by this present act, or within the said former act before remembered & confirmed, shall at all times from hence forward bee recovered by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information to be commenced, within any of our said Soueraigne Lord the Kinges Courts within the said Cittie of London, in the name of the Chamberlaine of the same Cittie of London for the time being, wherein none essoigne or wager of law shall be admitted, and shall be employed, distributed and bestowed, as heereafter is and shall be appointed and declared, That is to say, the one moitie or halfe deale of euery such paine, penaltie, and forfeiture, to be to the vse of the taker and presenter of the offender and offenders, and the other moitie to be and remaine to the vse of the poore, for the time being, maintained and relieued in the new hospi-



Hospitall in West-smithfelde in the suburbs of the said citty. And also provided, and be it enacted, that it shalbe lawfull at all times hereafter, to and for the Lord Maior and aldermen of the of the said cittie for the time beeing, to cause by their discretions, all such garbell of the said spices, drugs and marchandize, as at anie time hereafter shall be brought vnto the Guild-hall aforesaid, according to the tenor, forme, and effect of the said former act, made in the 18. yeare of the raigne of our said late King, which may be lawfullie and conueniently conueied and put to anie good and reasonable vse and occupation to bee retained, vttered, solde, and spent by it selfe, vvithin the said cittie, and elsewhere within the realme of England, anie thing vvithin the same former act, or anie other act or ordinance mentioned or contained to the contrarie in aniwise notvvithstanding.

And also, be it enacted and ordained by the auctoritie aforesaid, that in case anie person or persons at anie time hereafter, doe, or shal refuse or deny trulie to content or pay to the said garbeller for the time being, or to his sufficient deputie or deputies, by the lawes and ordinances afore remembred shall be due and belong, as it hath beene accustomed for the garbelling and sealing of anie of the said spices, drugs, and marchandize: vvhen, and assoone as the same shall be so garbelled & sealed: that then it shalbe lawfull for the said Garbeller, his deputie, or depu-

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ties,

ties, immediatlie to plucke of and to take away euery such seale, so by him or them before put to the same spices, drugs, and marchandize, & that then and from thensefoorth the said spices, drugs, and marchandise, and euery parcel thereof, shall be taken, deemed, and adiudged, as not garbelled, clenfed or sealed, but remaine and stande vnder the danger and penaltie aboue in this present act mentioned and expressed, anie thing in the same act comprised to the contrary notwithstanding.

Provided also, and bee it enacted by the authoritie aforesaid, that if at any time heerafter, any of the said spices, drugs, wares, or marchandise, which ought to be garbelled and clenfed as is aforesaid, be found so full of stones, so wet with water, rotten, brused, worme eaten, or otherwise full of filthines and vncleane, that they cannot be garbled and clenfed, as is aforesaid, in suche reasonable and conuenient time and space, as other drugs, spices, and marchandise of like kinds and sortes for the most part may bee, That then it shall be in the ellection of the saide Garbeller his deputie or deputies, for the time being, to haue the fee therefore vsed and accustomed, or else to haue and take for euery such person as shall worke about euery such Garbelling, for euery whole daies worke, after the rate of viii.d. by the daie.

*The*



*The oath of the common  
Garbeller.*

**Y**ou shall sweare that you shall well and lawefullie behaue you in the office of Garbeller, within the cittie of London, without any fauor or partialitie shewing to anie person, taking reasonable for your labour.

And all the powder or order within the Bales, and of marchandize by you to be garbled, wholelie yee shall bringe or deliuer to the Chamberlaine of this Cittie, for the time being, to the intent that the said powder or order after that, shal not be mingled in any such marchandize.

And after that you haue garbled any bale or marchandize, you shall marke and signe the same bale by you garbled, with a marke to the intent that the Common weicher may haue knowledge thereof. And in this and in all other thinges, that to the office of Garbeller apperteineth, you shall well and truelie behaue your selfe, as God you helpe.

**FINIS.**

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An Appendix declaring, that for so much as the request of the authors, doo lie dispersed in this booke, and least it should seeme to carry abroad, an vnseruiceable mention of matters therein: therefore they, for a careful refining thereof, haue collected as readie (for such Commissioners as may be appointed, or if any such hap to be) for the due examination of the necessity of their saide petitions, the contents of the said booke, and the breese of such things, as they do sue to haue reformed, and to haue passed to an Acte of Common councell in London, the rather, for that these presence may beare the better credit, by a conference with such commission, where by the same Art of Garbelling, may be indued with the life of some lawe, for the benefit of the Common-wealth.

*The brieft Contents of the Booke.*



In primis, they shew that King Henry the sixt, did giue the office of garbelling of spices, to the Lord Mayor and Communitie of London for euer, to the end that the spices brought in-



into this realme, should bee made cleane, and the corrupt to bee deuided from the good, for the healthe and good of the subiectes of this Realme.

That therevpon the Marchantes owners of such spices, & the Grocers retaylors, of the same did at a meeting for that purpose, concord and agree vpon the maner of clensing of such spices, and also of the sorts that euery kind of such spice should be deuided and made into.

That by force of this agreemente, certeine Actes were made by the said Lorde Mayor and Comminaltie, whereby the Marchants are inioyned not to sell any spice, before the same be garbelled: and the Retaylors Grocers are inioyned, not to alter nor mixe the saide sortes of spices, so made and garbelled, vppon paine of forfeiture of the said spices.

*The ground of the  
Abuses.*



Orsomuch as in the saide actes, the saide manner of garbling of the said spice, so then agreed vpon, nor the saide sortes likewise, that the same spices shoulde be deuided and made into, were not expresse in the said Actes, nor sufficientlie recorded in any court, Therefore the Garbeller vnder the Lorde Mayor, garbellet the said spi-

ces as it pleaseth him : and the retaylors grocers by force of the said actes, are inforced to put the same to sale in such manner, as the said Garbellers doo handle them, and in such sort :

That hir maiestie is deceiued in the goodnes and price of the said spice, to a great value in the yeere.

The marchant and owners before their faces are defrauded and deluded, with their owne goods.

The Retaylors are discredited, and their spice in markets and faires are made forfeit, by reason of their corruption, and are in the said book at large expressed.

The price is nothing abated.

And all the people are deceiued.

*The conclusion of the booke, and the matters therein required, to be enacted and to be for euer obserued, if it shall be so thought requisite by the Committees appointed.*



That the antient manner of garbelling of spices before agreed vpon, may be obserued, and all others to be reiected.

That the said antient deuisions of such spices, may bee also kept, and the same so deuided, to bee seuerallie put vp.

That none doo worke but men of skill, in that



that office, as is in the ninth Chapter of the said booke set forth, and the same persons to be nominated and elected, by the companie of Grocers, out of the decaied brethren of that companie, as often as such place shall fall void, with one of that companie, to suruey the orderlie putting vp, of the saide deuisions with theyr marks.

That the rates for the common garbeller be reexamined, and made equall to his paine.

That the orders deuised and set forth, by the workemen in that office, and in the booke expressed, may be examined, and so much thereof allowed them, as tendeth for the better preservation of the said goods, and their concord in working in marchants houses.

